

THE ALBION

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No. 978.

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PRICE
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For the convenience of Subscribers residing in remote places, the weekly numbers are reissued in Monthly Parts, stitched in a wrapper, and forwarded with the Magazines.—Subscriptions for the Stamped Edition for the Continent, for not less than Three Months, and in advance, are received by M. BAUDRY, 3, Quai Malaquais, Paris, or at the Publishing Office, 14, Wellington-street North, Strand, London. For France [JAMES HOLMES, TOOK'S COURT, CHANCERY LANE.]

TRISH ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—

Members of the Society are desired to take notice, that Messrs. BARTHELS & LOWELL, Foreign Booksellers, 14, Great Marlborough-street, have been appointed the Society's AGENTS in London and for the Continent.

By order,
JAMES H. TODD, D.D.F.T.C.D. Secretary.
Members residing in different parts of England are respectfully invited to forward post office orders for their subscriptions, for the year ending on Wednesday, 14th OCTOBER, NEXT, in favour of Messrs. Barthelemy & Lowell, 14, Great Marlborough-street, London.

DECORATIVE ART SOCIETY.—NOTICE.

THE GENERAL MEETINGS were ADJOURNED on Wednesday, June 24, to WEDNESDAY, 14th OCTOBER, NEXT. THE TRANSACTIONS of the Society during the past three months will then be published for distribution to the Members. All communications are to be addressed to
MR. E. C. LAUGHER, Hon. Sec.
17, Sussex-place, Kensington.

THE PARKER SOCIETY.

CORRESPONDENCE OF ARCHBISHOP PARKER.—The Parker Society being about to publish a selection of the Letters of Archbishop Parker, it is earnestly desired that it should be rendered as complete as possible. Any communication upon the subject, and especially any reference to any letters of the Archbishop preserved in any public or private library, or in any work not likely to be referred to for such a purpose, will be esteemed a favour.

Communications may be sent to the Editor, John Bruce, Esq., 17, Hyde Park Gate, Gloucester-street.
The Members of the Parker Society who have not paid the subscription for 1846 (amount £1) are requested to do so without delay, as the Committee have been instructed to refuse to receive those who are not paid, and are admitting new applicants. All orders are payable to William Thomas, Esq., Secretary for General Business, Office of the Parker Society, 23, Southampton-street, Strand, London.

THE HANDEL SOCIETY.—ISRAEL IN EGYPT.

Edited by FELIX MENDELSSOHN BARTHOLDY, has been issued to right of the third year's subscription. An Annual Subscription of One Guinea, paid in advance, entitles a Member. The Members are respectfully informed that the fourth year's subscription, for the year ending 30th June, 1847, is now due; and they are requested to forward the amount of the same to the Treasurer, Mr. William Chappell, at Craven & Co., 201, Regent-street.

W. CHAPPELL, Treasurer.
7, Charlotte-street, Fitzroy-square,
7th July, 1846.

TO ARTISTS.—PREMIUM OF ONE THOUSAND POUNDS for the best OIL PAINTING, of the BAPTISM OF OUR LORD IN THE JORDAN.

All works intended for this competition must be delivered during the last week in March, 1847, at a place in London, hereafter to be advertised.

Artists are requested to superintend the placing of their own pictures in the room which will be chosen by the Committee. The sum of One Thousand Pounds is now placed in the hands of the following gentlemen: JOSEPH TRITTON, SAMUEL MOSEY Peto, and THOMAS PETERSON, of London, Esquires, in trust, to pay it to the successful competitor, as soon as the prize shall have been awarded.

The prize will be awarded in the following manner:—Out of the whole number of Pictures, Ten shall be chosen by the Committee, and the Artists or their Proxies, before the public shall be admitted to the Exhibition. Fourteen days after the public shall have been admitted, Five out of these Ten Pictures shall be chosen, also by the Committee, and the Artists or their Proxies, before the public shall be admitted to the Exhibition. One shall be selected by us, as entitled to the Prize. No Competing Artist to be appointed a Proxy; and the votes to be given in writing, with the names of the Artists, and the names of the Pictures.

Artists are requested to observe that no Picture can be admitted to the Exhibition, unless the persons, both of our Lord and of John the Baptist, be not less than two-fifths of their height in the water.

THOMAS ARNOLD, Secretary.
CHARLES HILL ROE, Birmingham.
London, February 18th, 1846.

The Editors of Foreign Journals are respectfully requested to pay this announcement.

AN ARCHITECTURAL ARTIST, of considerable experience, and accustomed to the execution of first-rate Exhibition Designs, will be glad to ENGAGE with an Architect of eminence.—Address, post paid, to W. G. MIDDLE, Esq., 15, Upper King-street, Bloomsbury-square.

TO BOOKSELLERS AND STATIONERS.

A highly-respectable YOUNG MAN wishes to ARTICLE himself for one or two years, at a reduced salary, to a respectable Man carrying on either of the above businesses, and where he will be able to gain a good understanding of the business, and refer to him, if required, in due preferred.—Address to Y. 17, Coleridge-street, Strand.

TO NEWSPAPER PROPRIETORS.—The

ENGAGEMENT as READER and REPORTER.—Address, A. CARE, of Messrs. VICK & SMITH, Chemists, Gloucester.

MR. SOLOMON ATKINSON, Senior Wrangler

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THE SCHOOL OPENS ON WEDNESDAY, the 29th inst.

DENMARK HILL GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—

MR. FLETCHER begs to announce to the Parents of the Pupils and his Friends generally, that the vacancy occasioned by the death of his Son, will, after the present recess, be supplied by the Rev. Nathaniel Jennings, M.A., late Principal of Hull College. The Opening of the School will be unavoidably deferred till Monday, August 3, when the usual Premium for punctual attendance will be awarded to all the Pupils present on the day.

TO CLERGYMEN.—SCHOLASTIC PARTNER-

SHIP.—The Proprietor of a first-rate BOARDING SCHOOL, FOR YOUNG GENTLEMEN, many years established in one of the principal towns of England, is desirous of meeting with a PARTNER, who shall be a Clergyman of the Established Church and a first-rate scholar, and who can command a capital of from two to three thousand pounds. The annual income of the School at present averages £3,000, and, with the contemplated changes, this sum might be reasonably expected to be raised to £5,000. Some but Principals will be treated with; and communications are to be addressed, in the first place, to T. S. H., under cover, to Messrs. Reife & Fletcher, Clerk Lane, London.

THE GERMAN AND FRENCH PRO-

TESTANT ESTABLISHMENT for a limited number of YOUNG LADIES, VICTORIA HOUSE, BRISTOL, Terrace, Bristol Hill, conducted by Mrs. TUPMAN.—Whilst paying every attention to those branches of female education cultivated in the principal schools of this country, Mrs. Tupman combines with them all the advantages of an enlarged Continental education, and attends, especially, to the progress and practice of the German and French languages. The resident teachers and servants are foreigners, and the Presence of known talents in the domestic arrangements are so ordered as to insure the comfort and health of the pupils. The grounds for recreation are extensive; there are hot and cold baths, and a medical man visits the Establishment periodically. With respect to the details and results of the plan of education, Mrs. Tupman can offer a very extensive choice of references.

Will RE-OPEN Monday, 27th of July.

PIANOFORTE TEACHING.—A Professor,

well and favourably known to the Public, will be happy to attend Private Pupils, or to make arrangements with a first-class Address. Address, pre-paid, M. N., care of Mr. Betts, 202, Oxford-street.

TO BOOKSELLERS.—A BUSINESS IN

BRISTOL TO BE DISPOSED OF.—In consequence of the death of Mr. Strong, Bookseller, Bristol, his business, with the lease of the premises, is to be disposed of. The premises are centrally situated in Bristol, and the Business is perhaps the most important in the West of England. The Stock comprises, besides a large collection of Books in various languages, many excellent Paintings, Portraits, and Articles of Value, seldom found in provincial collections, and which may be taken along with the Stock or separately. The late Mr. Strong had a reputation for the elegant taste of his bindings; of these several handsome specimens remain in his Stock. Apply to the Executors, Mr. J. Chilcot, 26, Clare-street; or Mr. G. Tremlett, 29, Orchard-street, Bristol.

THE JOURNALS OF THE FINE ARTS ON

PHOTOGRAPHY.—A Daguerreotype Portrait that could truly be pronounced a *Realist* likeness we certainly never expected to see; that phenomenon, however, was presented to us on recently visiting the establishment of Mr. Claudet. *Athenaeum*, July 4.—"We confess we had no idea of the possibility of producing anything so artistic and elegant on metal plates." *Art Union*, July 1.—"Mr. Claudet's productions approach more nearly to the highly-finished miniature than anything we have yet seen." *Literary Gazette*, July 4.

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July 16, 1846. Open daily from Ten till Six.

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MR. JOSEPH ELLIS is desirous of making known that the above-named Hotel has undergone an entire repair and re-organization. In regulating it he has been guided by the experience gained in association with his Father, at the Star and Garter, Richmond Hill, and he hopes to have been so far successful as to have rendered it worthy of patronage. The Hotel not being widely known, Mr. Ellis begs respectfully to point out some of the advantages by which it is peculiarly distinguished. Of these the leading feature is in the plan of its construction, which affords to a degree perhaps unequalled the convenience of separateness to the several Families or Gentlemen who occupy it at the same time;—an advantage gained by means of distinct entrances, spacious vestibule, three staircases (the chief of which has two ways from every landing, width of passages, and the compact arrangement of rooms en suite. Mr. Ellis has studied to turn to the best account these capabilities for comfort, adding thereto what was wanting for completeness in several important particulars. Of the latter he may mention a Sea-water Service in the Hotel, fresh every day, connected with the bath; and a commodious well-appointed Coffee-room. Mr. Ellis further begs to assure those who may favour him with their support, of his best attention and uniform moderation in the prices of the suites of apartments on the ground floor, and others having private entrance; also, contiguous, Billiard Rooms and a Tennis Court. The Hotel is most elegantly situated near to and facing the sea, on the West Wall.

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Messrs. J. C. & S. STEVENS will SELL by AUCTION, at their Great Room, 21, King-street, Covent-garden, on TUESDAY, July 23, at 12 for 1 o'clock precisely.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 25, 1846.

REVIEWS

An Historical and Critical View of the Speculative Philosophy of Europe in the Nineteenth Century. By J. D. Morell, A.M. 2 vols. Pickering.

A plain, intelligent and dispassionate account of the speculative systems of the Continent has for a long time been desired by the English student; and, for want of such, his conception of a philosophy putting forth the highest claims, and bruted with the most extravagant laudation, has been fragmentary and perplexed. Of Kant he may have known a little; but, separated from the general history of metaphysics, such small knowledge could only mislead—it being necessary that the relation between the different celebrated thinkers of Europe should be carefully appreciated, in order to a right understanding of the general argument. The philosophy which we have to consider has not been the work of any single mind: it had its origin in one, its growth in another, its further progress in a third, and its closer approximation to perfection in a fourth and fifth,—“the last bearing a glass which shows us many more.”

Mr. Morell's volumes contain a more complete analysis, and a more extensive review, of the different theories which compose this philosophy than any other work with which we are acquainted. The investigation, too, is as minute in its particulars as it is comprehensive in its scope; and includes some names, even amongst Englishmen, of which a less ardent inquirer would have necessarily remained ignorant. The character of the author's mind is evidently eclectic; and seeks by harmonizing opinions to attain some image of the truth. His progress in metaphysical study has, according to his own account, been that of the sedulous scholar. He has sought all opportunities of discovering the conclusions at which distinguished men have arrived on the highest and most difficult problems; and compared and contrasted them, with the diligence of a conscientious pupil. He has, all along, been a learner, rather than an independent thinker; and has given us, in his treatise, the results of his learning. The reader of the present work will, consequently, be saved an amount of labour, of which those only can form a notion who have gone through the subject without the aid of such a compilation.

The writer's mind, though with a bias to the ideal side of philosophy, is thoroughly English; and his style of treatment exclusively in the manner to which he was born. His philosophical studies commenced with Locke; whose great error, he thinks, consisted in seeking the origin of ideas before ascertaining their characteristics by induction. Had Newton, as Mr. Morell observes, investigated the architecture of the heavens on the same principle as Locke did the construction and powers of the human understanding, that illustrious astronomer must necessarily have formed hypotheses unwarranted, or, at least, unproved, by facts. Dissatisfied with Locke, therefore, our author next studied Browne,—and, for awhile, with more satisfaction. Then, in the University of Glasgow, he went through a course of Scottish metaphysics; and conceived a strong regard for Reid and Smith. But, soon, he found himself engaged in reading Kant's ‘Critique of Pure Reason,’ and some few other continental works: whereupon, an entirely new region was opened to his contemplation,—the full examination of which requiring a visit to Germany, he there heard Brandis and Fichte lecture, and spent several months in perusing the standard produc-

tions in philosophy. He went, next, to France,—studied Cousin and the Eclectics,—and found in their writings, as he thought, the means of combining the systems through which he had thus travelled into one intelligible scheme. The volumes before us present “a sketch” of such a design.

Mr. Morell appreciates highly the genius of Kant; who, in his opinion, “commenced a new scene in the wondrous drama of the world's philosophy.” He successfully opposed the scepticism of his age; but laid the basis of one still more profound and philosophical. Desirous of silencing for ever the contest concerning the fundamental questions of ontology, morals and religion, Kant sought to “remove them into a region altogether inaccessible to the reach of ordinary logic,—and there to let them repose in solemn majesty.” His successors, however, refused to be so restrained; they would carry speculation into the prohibited field—

And thought the more, because they thought in vain.

We confess, ourselves, to a shrewd suspicion, that most of their so-called discoveries were anticipated by the master, and numbered amongst the paralogsms against which he warned his scholars.—The general heads of Kant's system are well enough known to our readers to make a repetition of them here unnecessary. The relation in which, according thereto, the material world stands towards us, is strikingly illustrated by Chalybæus, as being the same which the various objects within a kaleidoscope bear to the eye. As we turn the instrument round, they assume all kinds of shapes and positions; which, however, have no dependence upon the objects themselves, but upon the construction of the glasses by which they are reflected. That there are objects actually present, is a truth that comes at once from those objects themselves; for without their presence the kaleidoscope would offer no phenomena at all to our view: but all the variations thereof depend upon the instrument through which they are seen. Such an instrument, to Kant, is the human mind. The different forms and aspects under which we perceive objects are produced by our own subjective faculties, or laws of thought. Such laws, therefore, are the only proper—or, indeed, possible—subjects of judicious inquiry; and with the investigation of these Kant's Critique is wholly occupied. They were, according to him, however, solely formal,—though sometimes personified by the reason; and to argue upon them as either real or not real, considered as related to being, is to permit the understanding to usurp upon a higher power.

It is with this last view that so much dissatisfaction has been expressed. Kant was followed by Jacobi; who joined with him in condemning, without reserve, all previous scepticisms and dogmatisms,—but objected, at the same time, to the position just stated. He felt the want of a more fundamental principle than Kant had recognized. This he called Faith, or Intuition,—an inward sense—a spiritual faculty—capable of a direct and immediate revelation of supersensuous things. As something is actually present in sensation, so, likewise, affirmed Jacobi, there is, in every idea, a direct intuition of truth, whether human or divine. And thus it was, that the mystical element became associated with the transcendental,—from which Kant himself had most carefully excluded it.

The mind is easily seduced into this direction; and Jacobi had, directly or indirectly, many followers,—who rested ultimately on *feeling* as an authority paramount over intelligence. Frederick Köppen and Jacob Salat merely repeated him; others acquired the appellation of Jacobian-

Kantists. These were Bouterwek, Krug, Fries, and Calker. Bouterwek contended for an absolute knowing-faculty, of which both thought and feeling are products. Krug dared a ‘New Organum for Philosophy,’ in which he asserts an absolute union in the consciousness of the knowing and the known, thought and existence, subject and object, beyond which it is not possible to penetrate. He likewise attempted a ‘New Theory of the Feelings’—describing Feeling as the dim and undefined ground from which Thought proceeds; by means of which Thought, again, in its reflex operation, the knowledge conveyed by Feeling, is rendered clear and valid. Fries, too, ventured on ‘A New Critique of Pure Reason,’ in which he derived Kant's Categories from Feeling, as an inward sense and infallible organ of absolute truth. Calker brought the two elements of thought and feeling into such complete union as to abolish all difference between them; and appeals to consciousness as the foundation of truth,—and as having three laws—knowledge, action, love—by means of which we are placed in close fellowship with the very nature and essence of things themselves, falling under the three corresponding ideas of the true, the good, and the beautiful. “Such,” says Mr. Morell, “are the attempts which have been made to complete the Kantian philosophy, by the introduction of mysticism: and if the results have not been entirely successful, yet they have called forth much truth, and may be looked upon as making one appreciable step in the march of philosophy.”

Meanwhile, Fichte, taking Kant for his basis, was working out a finished system of Idealism. To this, Kant's immediate successor—and subsequently Fichte's disciple Reinhold—had greatly contributed. Reinhold undertook the examination of the Consciousness itself,—for the purpose of explaining the process of perception; which he stated to involve three considerations—the perceiving mind, the thing perceived, and the perception itself. The next step was taken by Fichte; who confined metaphysical science so strictly to the Consciousness, that he permitted no appeal to the external world. Into the detail of the Ego-istic scheme thence resulting, fortunately, we need not enter,—as this has been so frequently presented to the English reader, as to make it sufficiently familiar. On this scheme, C. W. F. Schlegel grafted, with some success, a mystical theory; first, in his philosophical romance, ‘Lucinde,’—and then, in some miscellanies, published under the title of ‘Characteristiken und Kritiken,’ in conjunction with his brother Augustus William. In these essays, he went to the extreme of the subjective hypothesis; advocating, in the last result, a state of passivity,—in which the spirit realizes, in the seeking, the mystery it would discover, and acquiesces in the principle of irony as that of the moral government of the world. These ideas were more fully developed in his Lectures published in 1804; in which he recognized a four-fold revelation—conscience, nature, scripture, and history.

Schlegel was followed, in the same path of inquiry, by Schleiermacher; who, in conjunction with the former, began his career by a complete translation of Plato. Schleiermacher held that the human consciousness was a microcosm—each individual a distinct microcosm: every man necessarily having his own views of truth, his own set of emotions, and his own religion—the individual consciousness being to every one the supreme revealer and test of truth; subject, however, to correction by reference to a privileged personality in the Founder of the Christian religion. This kind of mysticism

reached its sublimation in Novalis; who, in order to avoid certain obvious difficulties in his predecessor's hypothesis, proposed to destroy the individual, the finite, the imperfect, the subjective self—and, by faith, to effect an absorption into the Divine mind.

To return to the philosophical development.—The next names that claim attention are those of Schelling and Hegel. Here lies the chief value of Mr. Morell's book. Of their systems, nothing tolerably complete or accurate has before appeared in an English dress. Our author has rendered of both a satisfactory and intelligible account. We shall indicate the outline, in the fewest possible words.

The crude and indistinct notion gained by Fichte of the doctrine of Identity, was improved by Schelling into a decided principle; according to which man has, by means of a spiritual organ, an immediate intuition of the Absolute—a vision of eternal essence, in which thought and existence are one. This same Absolute contains, potentially, what, in the process of self-development, it may become. It is the original and absolute principle of life, reason, or being; and involves in it both the percipient and perceived. Space and Time are the positive and negative forces; the one expanding and the other limiting—and thereby producing, as a result, material existence. The law of self-development is threefold—reflective, subsumptive, and rational. By the first, the Absolute represents itself in the Finite—by the second, it returns to the Infinite—and, by the third, it unites both in a point of Indifference. These three potencies form three subordinate spheres of being.—Thus, on the side of Reality, we have,—in the sphere of matter—expansion, attraction, and gravity; in the sphere of dynamics—magnetism, electricity, and galvanism; and in the sphere of organism—reproduction, irritability, and sensibility. On the side of Ideality, we have,—in the sphere of knowing—feeling, reflection, freedom; in the sphere of action—individuality, state, history; and in the sphere of art, as seen in the productions of genius—the Absolute developed, as the Identity of Nature and Spirit, of the Real and Ideal.

Nature, through successive potencies, unfolds herself as Matter, Light, Life;—unconscious products, and abortive attempts to raise herself to intelligence. When we pass into the philosophy of mind, we have to do precisely with the same essence, but in another form, and in a state of self-consciousness. Such was the idea of a philosophical system which Schelling had conceived. In working it out,—so wide was the scheme of inquiry which it embraced—his progress was slow and tentative. Accordingly, late in life, after having given to the world one account of it, the philosopher is now engaged in reconstructing the whole; and the schools of Germany are anxiously awaiting the final shape which his opinions shall assume. Take the following as a specimen of the style in which Mr. Morell states the higher problems of his difficult argument:—

"It is now easy to see the vast comprehensiveness of Schelling's philosophy as a whole. It begins by advocating a kind of divine intuition, by which we gaze upon the realistic ground or basis of all the phenomena, both of mind and matter. From this it goes on to construct, by means of an absolute and *a priori* law, the whole phenomenal universe, deriving it from the self-unfolding of the Absolute. One region of existence after another yields, as by a magic spell, to the bidding of this law, and confesses its secret unveiled. Matter, with all its dull inertia, puts on the garb of contending powers, and shows itself to be the objective reflection of the Absolute itself; those subtle agencies which we term magnetism, electricity, galvanism, light and heat, each owns

itself to be but one pulsation in the self-developing process of the universal mind; and even the phenomena of organized life are still but the complete objectifying of the absolute, each animal nature being a perfected type of the eternal nature itself. From the philosophy of nature, Schelling passes, in one unbroken chain of argument, without a chasm between, to the philosophy of spirit. The same great law of the absolute solves the mysteries of sensation, of intelligence, and of human freedom; from thence it proceeds to explain the phenomena of man as an individual agent; of man in his connexion with society; and, lastly, of man as he has developed his being upon the broad page of history. Finally, it enters into the mazy regions of human genius and art, and finds in them the crown and the summit of the whole process—the highest expression of the Deity in the world. Here it might be supposed, that the author would have found his goal, and having constructed the universe out of almost nothing, have at length enjoyed his Sabbath in peace. But, instead of this, we find that the work is only half done; he has developed the law of the universe, but not explained the substance; he has exhibited the form, now he must go to the matter; he has analyzed the full idea of God, and now he must make manifest his existence. Upon this, with unwearied wings, he begins another flight,—panteism is left behind, and the real Triune Jehovah is placed before us in all the plenitude of a divine personality. Next, the whole nature of the dependent creation is developed, the procedure of the material universe from the absolute expounded, and the mysteries of existence, which had been hidden before in thick darkness, made irradiant with light and intelligence. The destiny of man then comes upon the stage. To show this, we have the origin of moral evil discussed; and the question, so long tossed upon the billows of controversy, for ever set at rest. The door being thus open into the region of Christian theology, the philosopher boldly enters into grapple with the great ideas which we there meet with. The law, which has unveiled the mysteries of nature and the soul, we may be sure does not fail in explaining the whole rationale of Christian faith. The great doctrines of revelation—the fall of man—the theory of redemption—the effusion of the Spirit,—all are converted from objects of faith to objects of science; all flow, as by natural consequence, from the great rhythm of existence; nay, the controversies of the Church themselves are settled, and the repose of the world announced in the predominance of the doctrines of the beloved apostle over the equally partial views both of Protestant and the Catholic. Such, and far more sweeping than we have represented it, is the philosophical system by which the name of Schelling is destined to go down the stream of time to the latest posterity."

It would be presumptuous in us to add anything to this statement: for further details, we must refer the reader to the work from which we have made this striking quotation,—in which, at any rate, the aim, if not the attainment, of Schelling's system is plainly enough indicated. The objections to it are obvious; and, in great part, it must be conceded that the doctrine of intuition, from which the whole proceeds, is founded (to adopt the words of M. Willm, in his 'Mémorial to the French Academy,' on the subject) "on an illusion—a paralogism—an exaggeration, and an hypothesis."

Pass we on to Hegel. This author, avoiding the assumption of an original, absolute, living essence, resolves everything into a process of thought. What he proposes to give the world is a Method that, commencing with zero, takes Nothing for granted, and then resigns itself entirely to the laws of thought, irrespective of experience. Thoughts, says Mr. Morell, are with Hegel, as much concrete realities as anything else; and Logic, as being a true description of their processes, is, at the same time, a true description of the laws of the universe, and not merely a formal science. The process of knowing implies a threefold movement. First, a state in which there is a complete blending of subject and object;—second, a state in which

sensation becomes perception, and we refer our feeling to some foreign cause;—and, third, a state in which the consciousness is re-united with the object. In all this, Hegel contends that the only perceivable existence is a relation; and that the whole universe is to us a universe of relations. "Subject and object," he says, "which appear contradictory to each other, are really one—not one in the sense of Schelling, as being opposite poles of the same absolute existence, but one inasmuch as their relation forms the very idea, or the very thing itself." Thus it is, with him, that Nothing and Being, and all other contradictories, are declared to be only apparently opposite, but in reality and at their source to be identical. They are steps in a process which is ever unfolding itself, but never unfolded; the Method being, for Hegel, exclusively the Absolute Idea,—the means by which, from the most empty of all our notions, we rise gradually to the most rich and full. The notions of Nothing and Being combined form that of Existence, in the same way that substance and quality united produce reality. In all this, it must be remembered that, with Hegel, the idea we have of the Absolute is the Absolute itself. He recognizes no distinction. The results which flow from this hypothesis must be trusted to the reader's own deduction. Having brought philosophy to this point, Hegel left its further improvement to his successors.

As we have already said, Mr. Morell professes to have found the satisfaction, which he sought in vain elsewhere, among the French Eclectics. We have no space to follow him there; but must content ourselves with announcing generally the manifold topics which the reader will find treated, with more or less fulness, in his work. Besides the names already mentioned, it includes analyses of the theories of Aristotle, Plato, Bacon, Collins, Dodwell, Hartley, Priestley, Horne Tooke, Condillac, Helvetius, St. Lambert, the Baron d'Holbach, Herder, Tiedman, Descartes, Geulinx, Malebranche, Spinoza, Lord Herbert of Cherbury, Cumberland, Cudworth, Shaftesbury, Wollaston, Clarke, Butler, Berkeley, Drs. Price and Harris, Leibnitz, Wolf, Hutcheson, Adam Smith, Beattie, Oswald, Henry More, Gale, Hume, James Mill, John Stuart Mill, Dr. Whewell, Dugald Stewart, Drs. Young, Mylne, Ballantine and Abercrombie, Sir James Mackintosh and Sir William Hamilton, Herbert, Dr. Payne, Isaac Taylor, Smart, Carlyle, M. de Maistre, Abbé de la Mennais, M. Ballanche, the Baron d'Eckstein, Coleridge, Thomas Taylor, Greaves, St. Simon, Fourier, Swedenborg, Schubert, Baader, Laromiguière, Collard, Maine de Biran, Jouffroy, Damiron, Constant, Madame de Staël, and Gerando. These, and many others, all find their place in these volumes;—and that in an organic relation which is suggestive of one universal truth, to which all systems are contributive. This, of itself, whatever we may think of his opinions,—and notwithstanding some minute errors that we have not failed here and there to detect,—indicates, on the part of the writer, an extensive range of reading and an extraordinary grasp of mind. Nor does he deserve less praise for the delightful ease and intelligibility of his style, and the uniform impartiality of his judgments. He believes, he tells us, "fully and heartily in Philosophy:—regarding it as the truest expression of the thoughts of every age; as one of the greatest aids to human progress; and, when of a true, elevated, and spiritual kind, as one of the most efficient means by which man is ever recalled from his absorption in the material to the contemplation of truth, of immortality, and of God."—Such is the scope and spirit of the work; for which every earnest

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The Lives of Twelve Eminent Judges of the Last and of the Present Century. By W. C. Townsend, Esq. Recorder of Macclesfield. 2 vols. Longman & Co.

Legal Biography is a literary phase of the day. The last two or three years have given us Lord Brougham's 'Sketches of British Statesmen,' which deal largely with lawyers,—Mr. Twiss's 'Life of Lord Eldon,'—and Lord Campbell's 'Lord Chancellors.' The volumes before us add 'The Lives of Twelve Eminent Judges' to the catalogue; of which number, however, the majority are expanded versions of several of those already sketched by Lord Brougham,—and one is a miniature of Lord Eldon, after the manner of Mr. Twiss. We are not disposed to quarrel with this literary inclination, so far. Class biography, within due limits, is a good thing. It attracts kindred writers, and exerts a favourable influence on kindred students; whilst the expansion of previous memoirs, and, occasionally, the re-casting of the same materials placed under a new aspect, are also not without their uses. Nevertheless, these latter processes are matters of some hazard,—and may be pushed to a length too great. They have, we think, reached their utmost limits in the present instance; and we trust that the twelve eminent personalities treated of in the work under consideration, may not, for a long time to come, if ever, be further expanded or re-cast,—but that they may be regarded, for all literary purposes, as henceforth "used up."

In fact, the employment of the re-productive system in these volumes, if it does not, by the extent to which it has been carried, amount to transgression sufficiently grave to incur condemnation, yet clearly illustrates the abuses to which it is liable. We stumble too often on old matter and stale anecdotes; and Mr. Townsend has laid previous authors under contribution far more freely than even Biography has warrant for. Doubtless, the memoir-writer not only may, but must, have recourse to previous authorities on the subjects which he treats,—and the privilege of quotation is liberally conceded. But this last is admissible only in cases where the works quoted from are substantially antecedent, and of such limited currency that the extracted material is pretty sure to come out new and fresh to the great majority of readers. The licence of wholesale quotation becomes subject to considerable restriction, in proportion as it is extended to more recent and less obscure writers; and must, except on rare occasions, cease altogether before it touches on the domain of contemporary memoir. Mr. Townsend seems to have set this very obvious principle of literary law wholly at defiance; and has borrowed so largely from Brougham and Malmesbury, from Moore's 'Life of Lord Byron,' Madame d'Arbly's 'Memoirs,' and a host of other recent and cotemporary writers, that we feel, at times, in traversing the motley page, as if we were reading an encyclopædia of the biographies of the day. This feeling, we admit, is only temporary; and, in the end, we recognize enough of legitimate material supplied by the author, to make us wish he had adapted the dimensions of his structure to that alone, and not built Dedalean wings to it with other men's materials, however imposing. We should, thus, have had a much smaller work,—but one also less heavy; for nothing is heavier than a twice-told tale, unless it be that factitious dullness of otherwise pleasant reading which is caused by the dangerous contrast of brilliant interpolation.

Bating these drawbacks, the book is, in the

main, an entertaining one—and, in a professional light, we should conceive, instructive. Its general plan is clear and well arranged,—tone sensible,—and style, though occasionally breaking down when it would seek to soar, on the whole easy and agreeable. It may be safely taken in the pocket of the travelling carriage, either on circuit or unprofessional tour. Had it been made to fit the coat—instead of the carriage-pocket, it had been better still.

The life of Lord Kenyon is, perhaps, the most entertaining of the "twelve;" from the circumstance of its being comparatively new to the reader, combined with the dramatic susceptibility supplied by the personal characteristics of the man. Erskine, it is true, is fully on a par with the Cambrian attorney in this latter respect; but so many portraits, both anecdotal and historical, exist of the great advocate, that we have but to turn over a page or two of any volume of the memorabilia of the last half century to come upon his traits and lineaments. Not so with the Chief Justice. His picture was to be rummaged for in one place only,—the Court of Queen's Bench; and it has been left for Mr. Townsend to extract it from amongst the dingy chattels of that ancient chamber, and to dust and re-varnish it for inspection. Here he is, accordingly, in his fourteen-year-old black coat waxing gray, leather breeches of kindred hue, and broad shoe-buckles; scolding attorneys, counsel, suitors, tipstiffs, and all but the jury,—on whom he lavishes love and veneration equivalent to idolatry; moralizing, sermonizing and storming; sputtering Cambrian English and Bog Latin, and yet, withal, propounding, meanwhile, the soundest opinions in Common Law. The Welch Justice should have sat for his portrait to Shakspeare. His passion for displaying his classical acquirements in court was, perhaps, his most amusing characteristic:—

"He would inform the bar, with becoming gravity, 'the court will take time to consider this case propter difficultatem.'—'We will look into this act of parliament with eagles' eyes, and compare one clause with another, noscitur à sociis.'—'Go to Chancery,' was his address to an importunate suitor, 'abi in malam rem.'—'Taffy,' said Lord Thurlow, 'when did you first think the Court of Chancery was such a mala res? I remember that you made a very good thing of it.' * * * These bits of classicality, sometimes as inapplicable as if they had been picked up at random from a dictionary of quotations, are amusingly caricatured in that miscellany of legal anecdotes, 'Westminster Hall.' The learned lord is there represented concluding an elaborate charge to the jury, with the observation, 'Having thus discharged your consciences, gentlemen, you may retire to your homes in peace, with the delightful consciousness of having performed your duties well, and may lay your heads upon your pillows, and say, Aut Caesar aut nullus.' On another occasion, his lordship, wishing to illustrate in a strong manner the conclusiveness of some fact, ended by remarking, 'It is as plain as the noses on your faces,—Latet anguis in herba!'"

Lord Kenyon was remarkable for the irritability of his temper; and had considerable celebrity as a Censor Morum—two things rather inconsistent, according to a strict interpretation of morality. The jury, however, never suffered from the first, and were frequently edified by the second:—

"But however much the deficiency of a calm and courteous bearing impaired his reputation among the practitioners in his court, and rendered him less acceptable to his yoke-fellows on the bench, never was a judge in higher fame with gentlemen of the press and gentlemen of the jury. His very failings won their liking; his prejudices were theirs; they, with him, loved to detect some knavish trick in an attorney; with him they held in pious horror the fashionable vices of the great, and the faults in his addresses against taste and correct idiom were beauties in their ears. His reverence for the trial by jury

bordered on idolatry; his sentiments never rose very far above the dead level of theirs."

The penuriousness of this judge was another salient feature in his character,—and a frequent source of wit to the wags of his court:—

"A brother lawyer having mentioned to Jekyll that he once went down into Lord Kenyon's kitchen, and saw the spits as bright and unused as when they came from the maker;—'Why do you mention his spit,' said Jekyll, 'when you know nothing turns upon that!'—Upon another occasion, the same punning satirist, with reference both to his petulance and penuriousness, said, 'It is Lent all the year round in his kitchen, and Passion week in his parlour.'—The appearance of his town and country residence, lonely and dark, was commented upon as too characteristic to bring the truth of this conjecture into question. The house at the Marsh Gate, half a mile on this side Richmond, exhibited, and still exhibits, a perfect specimen of a domestic economist's abode, flanked by a muddy duck-pond, with mouldering walls. * * * A hatchment was put upon this edifice, after Lord Kenyon's death, with the motto, 'Mors janua vite,'—the last letter written by a mistake of the painter. This was pointed out by Jekyll to his successor, and by no means good friend, Lord Ellenborough. 'Mistake,' said his lordship, 'it is no mistake! He left particular directions in his will that the estate should not be burdened with the expense of a diphthong!'"

The law, which is to other men a profession, was a passion to Lord Kenyon. "I do not give you credit," writes Wilberforce to Stephen, "for the same innate love of law, which made Kenyon bring home cases to be answered, as another man would crack walnuts, when sitting tête-à-tête with Lady Kenyon after dinner." Her laborious lord surpassed even Lord Mansfield's assiduity in the hunting up of cases; for he had no literary tastes to gratify—no company to divert his attention—and the work of law had become to him the very pleasantest in the world.

The following anecdote—showing the danger of laying down general rules too stringently—though taken by the author from a source so familiar as the 'Percy Anecdotes,' is worth repeating:—

"To a more humble class in the profession—attornies' clerks—Lord Kenyon often showed forbearance and kindly feeling. He had been a clerk himself, and would venture to play with the cubs before their claws were grown. Soon after his appointment as Master of the Rolls, he was listening attentively to a young clerk, on whom the duty had fallen of reading to him the conveyance of an estate, and who on coming to the word 'enough' pronounced it 'enow.' His honour immediately interrupted him: 'Enough, according to the vernacular idiom, is pronounced enuff, and so must all English words which end in ough,—as tough, rough, cough.' The clerk bowed, blushed, and went on reading for some time, when (lo! the danger of a too comprehensive rule) coming to the word plough, he, with a raised voice and a penetrating glance at his honour, called it 'pluff.' The great lawyer stroked his chin, and, with a smile, candidly said, 'Young man, I sit corrected.'"

From Lord Kenyon, with all his eccentricities, we pass on to a very different sort of personage—Lord Chancellor Loughborough. The Scot and the Cambrian, in character as in country, stood at opposite points of the compass. The first appearance of Wedderburn in his profession was at the Scotch Bar. The circumstance that led him to migrate to the English is well known in the vicinity of Westminster Hall, but may be new to the general reader:—

"Shortly after commencing practice at the Scottish bar, it was his fortune to be opposed to Mr. Lockhart, at that time a leading counsel. In replying to an impassioned appeal of this powerful opponent, he summed up an ironical picture of Mr. Lockhart's eloquence in these sarcastic terms: 'Nay, my lords, if tears could have moved your Lordships, tears, sure I am, would not have been wanting.' The Lord

President immediately interrupted the young counsel, and told him he was pursuing a very indecorous course of observation. Wedderburn maintained with spirit that he had said nothing he was not well entitled to say, and would have no hesitation in saying again. The Lord President, irritated probably at so bold an answer from a junior, rejoined in a manner, the personality of which provoked the advocate to tell his lordship that he had said that as a judge which he dared not justify as a gentleman. The remark was hasty, and not to be brooked. The President threw himself on the protection of his brother justices; and Wedderburn was ordered by the unanimous voice of the court to make a most abject apology, on pain of deprivation. He refused, and threw off his gown. It is reported, we may hope untruly, that Lockhart declined to hold a brief with the unlucky satirist; but whether this refusal hastened his abandonment of the profession or not, it is clear that he acted as a man of honour, and deserves applause for his spirited defence of that which is the vital principle of the advocate, full liberty of speech.

"The road from Edinburgh to London," says Mr. Townsend, "proved to him, as it has done to many of his countrymen, a path to fame and emolument." In 1771, Wedderburn was gazetted Solicitor-General, with Thurlow for his colleague:—

"The minister," said Horne on his trial, "sat secure between his two brazen pillars, Jachin and Boaz, to guard the treasury bench." Both law officers exercised considerable sway in the house, but in a perfectly distinct style and manner; the one the Ajax, the other the Ulysses of debate. The one, blunt, coarse, and vigorous, hurled hard words and strong epithets at his opponents in a tremendous voice, with a look and tone of defiance; the other, elegant, subtle, and insinuating, arrayed his arguments in all the persuasive guises of rhetoric, and, where he could not convince the reason, or move the passions, sought to silence objections with ironical pleasantry and bitter sarcasm. Their rival feats of eloquence may be compared to the trial of strength and dexterity between Cœur de Lion and Saladin, mentioned in the *Talisman* of Sir Walter Scott. King Richard, with his two-handed sword, cut asunder the iron bar which no arm but his could have severed; the Soldan could exhibit no such miracle of muscular strength, inferior as he was in brawn, and sinew, and muscle, but with his blue scymetar he severed the cushion and veil into two equal parts, displaying at the same time the extreme temper and sharpness of the weapon, and the exquisite dexterity of him who used it."

Our Saladin and his dexterity, nevertheless, soon brought the country into trouble; and were mainly instrumental in losing us our American colonies. In 1780, he did better service, by the prompt and bold counsel that, as Attorney-General, he gave to George III., in the matter of Lord George Gordon's Riots:—

"Having signally avenged the cause of his friend the prime minister, the Attorney-General rendered to his country a still more essential service. The fanatical riots which disgraced London in 1780, and threatened to lay the capital in ashes, were at their height, when he was summoned to attend a meeting of the Cabinet Council. The ministers had shown culpable supineness; the city magistrates had fled from the danger; Lord Mansfield, with cowardly prudence, had declined to pronounce an opinion, whether the military could lawfully fire on the populace caught in the act of rioting, without any previous notice; and no member of the cabinet had sufficient moral courage to sign instructions to the officers on duty. The King presided at this extraordinary council, and displayed a far more determined spirit than his official servants. His Majesty made an extempore speech at council: 'I lament the conduct of the magistrates; but I can only answer for one,—one (putting his hand on his breast) will do his duty.' He demanded of the Attorney-General to state, in the most precise terms, whether such an assemblage as then infested the metropolis might be dispersed at once by military force. Wedderburn declared that undoubtedly it might, without waiting for technical forms, or reading the Riot Act. 'Is that your declaration of the law, as Attorney-

General?' said the King. He answered that it decidedly was. 'Then so be it done,' rejoined his Majesty. The Attorney-General immediately drew up an order, which the King signed, and on which Lord Amherst dispersed the mob the same evening. The exposition of the law, thus categorically given, has been confirmed by later authorities on the recurrence of a similar calamity; and the nation may be grateful for the safety of its capital to the firmness of the King who demanded that opinion, and the courage of the man who gave it."

Eight years after he had been called to the bar, Mr. Law came before the world as leading counsel in one of the most remarkable cases ever submitted to a tribunal—that of Warren Hastings. Against him were arrayed in the manager's box, Burke, Fox, Sheridan, Windham, and Grey,—supported by the professional talents of Lawrence, Mansfield, and Pigott. At first, Law quailed before such a galaxy of genius and power:—

"If we may give implicit credit to the narrative of Miss Burney, a devoted follower of the court, and who shared with her royal patrons a strong predilection in favour of the accused, the generally dauntless advocate was unmanned at first by the strangeness and grandeur of the scene, and by his appreciation of the matchless power of intellect opposed to him, to such a degree as to be disabled from doing full justice to his client or himself. 'To hear the attack, the people came in crowds; to hear the defence, they scarcely came in tête-à-tête. Mr. Law was terrified exceedingly, and his timidity induced him so frequently to beg quarter from his antagonists, both for any blunders and any deficiencies, that I felt angry with even modest egotism.'"

Although of grave and almost saturnine demeanour, this judge could sometimes indulge in a grim joke. His reply to a long-winded conveyancer, who, after wearying the court with a very ponderous speech, appealed to them to know "when it would be their pleasure to hear the remainder of his argument," was sufficiently caustic. "Mr. T.," rejoined the Chief, "we are bound to hear you, and shall do so on Friday,—but *pleasure* has been long out of the question."—On another occasion,—

"A young counsel commenced his stammering speech with the remark, 'The unfortunate client who appears by me,' and then came to a full stop; beginning again, after an embarrassed pause, with a repetition of the remark, 'My unfortunate client,' he did not find his fluency of speech quickened by the calm raillery of the judge, who interposed in his softest tone, 'Pray go on,—so far the Court is quite with you.'"

Again, in the case of an Irish Barrister, who thought proper to suppose—

"An eagle soaring high above the mists of earth, winning its daring flight against a mid-day sun, till the contemplation becomes too dazzling for humanity, and mortal eyes gaze after it in vain; here the orator faltered, and, after an abortive effort or two, sat down in confusion. 'The next time, sir,' said the judge, 'you bring an eagle into court, I should recommend you to clip his wings.'"

"In person," says Mr. Townsend, "Lord Ellenborough was robust, but ungraceful; above the middle size, and sinewy,—his masculine frame presenting an appearance of great strength, till shattered by disease. Sir Thomas Lawrence, taking a likeness of him in his official dress, in which he looked best, has thrown off a fine vigorous portrait. The broad and commanding brow, the large and regular features, the projecting eye-brows, dark and shaggy, the stern black eye, from which flashed not unfrequently indignation or contempt, gave a character of gravity not unminged with harshness to his countenance, even when in repose. A dignified severity was its peculiar and prevailing expression. His figure was ungainly, and his walk singularly awkward. He moved with a kind of semi-rotatory step, and his path to the place to which he wished to go was the section

of a parabola. The sergeant employed to drill the Lincoln's Inn Corps said that Mr. Law was the only person he could never teach to march, and would never make a soldier. Both Lord Ellenborough and Lord Eldon were turned out of the awkward squad for awkwardness."

Perhaps a happier subject for biography of this class could hardly be hit on than Erskine,—the weakest of the weak and strongest of the strong,—in virtue of the one characteristic, supplying the frailty which imparts zest to memoir, and of the other the force which gives it weight;—both these characteristics—like the separate currents of a river—flowing side by side, without, to any practical extent, intermingling, and thus leaving the quality of each unimpaired. It is a common, but most mistaken, notion, that Erskine being a vain man and of mercurial temperament, his political conduct and career were of that flimsy texture of which such qualities are commonly held to be earnest; and that, hence, he merits rather the reputation of a brilliant declaimer than that of a wise and practical statesman. No inference can be more opposed to fact. The mere register of the great public services which he achieved, did our space permit an enumeration so copious, would at once refute the fallacy. Suffice it to say, with Mr. Townsend, that Lord Erskine did "more for freedom than any lawyer since Somers, and gained a series of victories, unexampled in their importance to the cause of constitutional law."

It is certain, nevertheless, that the sensitiveness and morbid vanity of the spoiled pet of Westminster Hall occasionally interfered with the free use of his intellectual powers, when no great subject happened to absorb these minor vanities in the egoism of a loftier ambition:—

"He had, said Dr. Croly, a morbid sensibility to circumstances of the moment, which sometimes strangely enfeebled his presence of mind; any appearance of slight in his audience, a cough, a rude laugh, or a whisper, has been known to dishearten him visibly. Aware of this infirmity, an attorney wise in his generation has been known to plant a man of drowsy appearance and habits beneath the Judge, directly opposite the place where Erskine was accustomed to address the jury. Agreeably to his instructions, and nothing loth, the sleepy hind would make a hideous grimace, and give way to the utmost expression of weariness in the midst of the most impassioned sentences. A pause of effect would be broken in upon by a dreadful yawn, and a splendid peroration be interrupted by a titter in the second row, and the cry of silence from the ushers at the too plain indication of a snore. Erskine could not withstand the torture, but sat down abruptly." This weakness was not only well known in the precincts of Westminster, but proclaimed at Charing-cross and Temple-bar:—

"In the zenith of his fame there were written under his portrait in the print-shops, in large capitals, I—I—I, and then in *pica mina*, *me—me—me*. The editor of the 'Morning Chronicle,' in reporting one of his orations, left many words imperfect, and put in an apologetic note to the effect that the printers were out of little I's, and that all the great I's had been exhausted long ago."

Richard Martin, we are almost grieved to say, cannot lay claim to originality for his advocacy of the interests of the brute creation. Lord Erskine had anticipated him, both in Parliament and without. Indeed, the latter went much farther in his practical love for animals than, we fancy, his disciple of Galway, or anybody else, ever did, before or since:—

"He has always expressed," says Romilly, "and felt a great sympathy for animals. He has talked for years of a bill he was to bring into parliament to prevent cruelty towards them. He has always had several favourite animals, to whom he has been much attached, and of whom all his relations have a number of anecdotes to relate;—a favourite dog, which he used to bring when he was at the bar to all his con-

ultations; n when he was the street from under preter which follow grounds; a vorities with got two favo them last aut ill at Portu had brought kept them i them fresh v them. He sa were gratefu names.—Ho surgeons, t Of Erski we can find to the seco are, howev his higher has referen of his, who "The cli broken his the case sto and C. the laonic ques he answered names will l Again:— "Captai where the his crew ha the Polar i nials. "An Erskine, "i Erskine Corn-laws, ject; but t Tory in h Catholic c anomaly of years, he dices,—w We can without n tribute; a conversan the Secor after regis as Lord C celebrated for an an The ir second m generation their sak happened Marquis for induc and take was one e was found lot to pas usual, ad of the gr the young quence of probable sequen and be in was one French r Duwager Scott, in had writt her son, advanta hint, Sir sentence tious,—t the ever

sultations; another favourite dog, which, at the time when he was Lord Chancellor, he himself rescued in the street from some boys, who were about to kill it under pretence of its being mad; a favourite goose, which followed him wherever he walked about his grounds; a favourite mackaw,—and other dumb favourites without number. He told us that he had now got two favourite leeches. He had been bloodied by them last autumn, when he had been taken dangerously ill at Portsmouth. They had saved his life, and he had brought them with him to town: and ever since kept them in a glass; had himself every day given them fresh water; and had formed a friendship with them. He said he was sure they both knew him, and were grateful to him. He had given them different names—Home and Cline, (the names of two celebrated surgeons,) their dispositions being quite different."

Of Erskine's numerous *bons-mots* and puns, we can find room for two only;—and these belong to the second class, rather than the first. They are, however, newer perhaps to the reader than his higher displays in this sphere. The first has reference to a case, sent to him by a friend of his, who was inclined to magnify facts:—

"The client complained of a painter who had broken his written contract to paint a house; and the case stated that A. would prove this, B. that, and C. the other fact, and concluded with this laconic question: 'Will an action lie?' To which he answered in terms as laconic, 'Yes, if all the witnesses will lie too.'"

Again:—

"Captain Parry was once asked, at a dinner party where the veteran joker was present, what he and his crew had lived upon when they were frozen on the Polar Sea. Parry said they lived upon the seals. 'And very good living too,' exclaimed Lord Erskine, 'if you keep them long enough.'"

Erskine was opposed to any relaxation of the Corn-laws, and wrote a pamphlet on the subject; but this was the doctrine of both Whig and Tory in his day. He was opposed, also, to the Catholic claims,—and this is, perhaps, the sole anomaly of his political creed. From his earliest years, he had imbibed strong religious prejudices,—which he was never able to shake off.

We cannot close our notice of these volumes, without making one of the brothers Scott contribute; and, as the reader is perhaps already conversant with the sayings and doings of John the Second, as Lord Eldon used to be called after reigning upwards of a quarter of a century as Lord Chancellor of England, we turn to his less celebrated though more accomplished brother, for an anecdote or two.

The incident that led to Lord Stowell's second marriage is generally known; but new generations spring up every summer—and for their sakes we shall venture to refer to it. It happened in this wise. At the trial of the Marquis of Sligo, at the Admiralty Sessions, for inducing sailors to leave the King's ships and take service in his yacht, Sir William Scott was one of the presiding judges. The Marquis was found guilty,—and it fell to Sir William's lot to pass sentence: on which occasion he, as usual, admonished the prisoner, in set phrase, of the grave nature of the offence. Whether the young man was much moved by the eloquence of the judge, history does not say: it is probable that he was more affected by the subsequent sentence to pay 5,000*l.* to the King, and be imprisoned for four months. But there was one in court upon whom the oratory of the Bench made a deep impression; and "the Dowager Lady Sligo passed to Sir William Scott, in court," a slip of paper, on which she had written "how happy she should think it for her son, if he could but continue to have the advantage of such paternal counsels." On this hint, Sir William spoke,—and, in doing so, passed sentence on himself. The dowager was propitious,—the only occasion, it seems, on which she ever appeared in that favourable light; for

after their marriage, it was Lady Sligo who admonished, and Sir William was the prisoner.

Lord Stowell had a passion for sight-seeing: "Whatever show could be visited for a shilling, or less, was visited by Lord Stowell. In the western end of London there was a room generally let for exhibitions. At the entrance, as it is said, Lord Stowell presented himself eager to see 'the green monster serpent,' which had lately issued cards of invitation to the public. As he was pulling out his purse to pay for his admission, a sharp, but honest, north-country lad, whose business it was to take the money, recognized him as an old customer, and knowing his name, thus addressed him: 'We can't take your shilling, my lord; 'tis the old serpent which you have seen twice before in other colours; but ye shall go in and see her.' He entered, saved his money, and enjoyed his third visit to the painted beauty. This love of 'seeing sights' was on another occasion productive of a whimsical incident. A few years ago, an animal, called a bonassus, was exhibited somewhere in the Strand. On Lord Stowell's paying it a second visit, the keeper very courteously told his Lordship that he was welcome to come, gratuitously, as often as he pleased. Within a day or two after this, however, there appeared, under the bills of the exhibition, in conspicuous characters, 'Under the patronage of the Right Hon. Lord Stowell:—an announcement of which the noble and learned lord's friends availed themselves, by passing many a joke upon him; all which he took with the greatest good humour.'"

But here we must conclude. For much more of the same pleasant character, the reader may be referred to the volumes.

Ravensnest; or, the Redskins. By the Author of 'The Pilot.' 3 vols. Bentley.

THE preface to 'The Pioneers' explains, how, twenty-four years ago, opposition drove the most popular of American novelists into authorship. If we may draw conclusions from 'Ravensnest,' there is no injustice in saying that opposition keeps his invention active. When in Europe, Mr. Cooper was so uncompromisingly American as to call forth a remark from that least critical of good companions, Sir Walter Scott:—now that he is settled in "the States," he appears displaced, uneasy, and tormented by the abuses growing up around him:—which he will not regard as merely casual excrescences and fever-eruptions, such as a society constituted like that of his country had no chance of escaping—as grievances that will pass with Time, and whose presence cannot justify the wonder, far less the despair, of any thinking man. 'Ravensnest' is, in form of a romance, an "illustration of Political Economy," as close to its argument as 'Cousin Marshall,' or 'Berkeley the Banker.' Now, romance, not politics, is our author's forte. One page from his 'Last of the Mohicans,' or 'The Prairie,' or 'The Pilot,' or 'The Bravo' (a tale which has never been duly valued) is worth the whole nine hundred which these three volumes contain. When describing a flight across the wilderness, or a sea-chase in the Devil's Grip, Mr. Cooper is passionate and earnest;—when sitting down to discuss political grievances and the mistakes of Jonathan the Wilful, he is passionate and personal. The testiness of the man who would have dinner precedences argued at the bayonet's point, peeps out in every speculation and in every keen remark. School-keeping, too, is always dull work—and Mr. Cooper's particularly dull. In the tact which gets a hearing for his prudential morality, he is beaten hollow by Miss Edgeworth: in the power of exciting his scholars to rise above the mean and conventional, his voice is toneless compared with the speaking trumpet of Miss Martineau.

Yet tedious as 'Ravensnest' is, and lacking such temper as makes tediousness endurable, it is superior to most novels that come before us.

Its characters are more sharply cut, and the interest of its story is more skillfully maintained. The tale turns upon the efforts of a certain democratic party to rid themselves of the old obligations which used to bind tenant to landlord by seizing possession of the Proprietor's estates, and admitting of no distinctions, no justice, no service, and no gratitude, save such as their own humour may ordain, with a keen eye to their own profit. Tidings of such unpalatable doings at Ravensnest cross the Atlantic to its proprietors, Mr. Littlepage and our hero, his nephew;—while the two are enjoying life where the Absentees of America most love to enjoy it—in Paris. Instant return, to take some order with the recusants, becomes necessary. But, since the landlord and his kinsman cannot without risk appear in their "own kail-yard"—and as it is a matter of first consequence to ascertain how far the disaffection has spread among the Littlepage tenantry,—"Uncle Ro" and "Captain Hugh," on disembarking at New York, adopt the device of disguising themselves, the elder as a German pedlar, and the younger as an itinerant musician; assuming—along with their shabby wigs—a gibberish which we defy man, woman, or child, of less than preternatural subtlety, to have maintained for a couple of hours, far less through a long series of close investigations. Never, since the days when the Tale of Troy was told, has a happier invention occurred to novelist than the return home of the rightful lord in disguise; especially when, as in the case of Hugh Littlepage, it involves not merely matters of law, but matters of love also:—since a clergyman's good daughter, Mary Warren, who is modest as well as good, is able to show a condescension to the vagabond German minstrel, which fear of being misunderstood must have led her to hide from the young Patroon. In rich contrast to this lady of his love, is presented the bold and showy, but not unkind, Opportunity Newcome; who has no idea of waiting to be courted,—and who, to save her "choice" from the anti-rent rabble who are proposing to attack Ravensnest, disguised as Indians, gets her miscreant brother, Seneca, into a scrape. Besides these elements of suspense and interest, Mr. Cooper introduces others—real Redskins, who come on a pilgrimage to look at a patriarch of their race long attached to the Littlepage family. This is nearly all that can be told: but we will quote a passage, affording a fair specimen of Mr. Cooper's speculations:—

"Albany! dear, good old Albany!" exclaimed my uncle Ro, as we stopped on the draw of the bridge to look at the busy scene in the basin, where literally hundreds of canal-boats were either lying to discharge or to load, or were coming and going, to say nothing of other craft; 'dear, good old Albany! you are a town to which I ever return with pleasure, for you at least never disappoint me. A first-rate country place you are; and, though I miss your quaint old Dutch church, and your rustic looking old English church from the centre of your principal street, almost every change you make is respectable. I know nothing that tells so much against you as changing the name of Market-street by the paltry imitation of Broadway; but, considering that a horde of Yankees have come down upon you since the commencement of the present century, you are lucky that the street was not called the Appian Way. But, excellent old Albany! whom even the corruptions of politics cannot change in the core, lying against thy hill side, and surrounded with thy picturesque scenery, there is an air of respectability about thee that I admire, and a quiet prosperity that I love. Yet, how changed since my boyhood! Thy simple stoups have all vanished; thy gables are disappearing; marble and granite are rising in thy streets, too, but they take honest shapes, and are free from the ambition of mounting on stilts; thy basin has changed the whole character of thy once semi-sylvan, semi-commercial river; but it gives to thy young man-

hood an appearance of abundance and thrift that promise well for thy age!" The reader may depend on it that I laughed heartily at this rhapsody; for I could hardly enter into my uncle's feelings. Albany is certainly a very good sort of a place, and relatively a more respectable looking town than the 'commercial emporium,' which, after all, externally, is a mere huge expansion of a very marked mediocrity, with the pretension of a capital in its estimate of itself. But Albany lays no claim to be anything more than a provincial town, and in that class it is highly placed. By the way, there is nothing in which 'our people,' to speak idiomatically, more deceive themselves, than in their estimate of what composes a capital. It would be ridiculous to suppose that the representatives of such a government as this could impart to any place the tone, opinions, habits and manners of a capital; for, if they did, they would impart it on the novel principle of communicating that which they do not possess in their own persons. Congress itself, though tolerably free from most shackles, including those of the constitution, is not up to that. In my opinion, a man accustomed to the world might be placed blindfolded in the most finished quarter of New York,—and the place has new quarters in which the incongruities I have already mentioned do not exist,—and, my life on it, he could pronounce, as soon as the bandage was removed, that he was not in a town where the tone of a capital exists. The last thing to make a capital is trade. Indeed, the man, who hears the words 'business,' and 'the merchants,' ringing in his ears, may safely conclude, *de facto* that he is not in a capital. Now, a New-York village is often less rustic than the villages of the most advanced country of Europe; but a New York town is many degrees below any capital of a large State in the old world. Will New York ever be a capital? Yes,—out of all question, yes. But the day will not come until after the sudden changes of condition which immediately and so naturally succeeded the revolution, have ceased to influence ordinary society, and those above again impart to those below more than they receive. This restoration to the natural state of things must take place, as soon as society gets settled; and there will be nothing to prevent a town living under our own institutions,—spirit, tendencies, and all,—from obtaining the highest tone that ever yet prevailed in a capital. The folly is in anticipating the natural course of events. Nothing will more hasten these events, however, than a literature that is controlled, not by the lower, but by the higher opinion of the country; which literature is yet, in a great degree, to be created."

We have spoken of 'Ravensnest' as evincing bitterness of spirit: it is, therefore, only fair to add a few words from a final Note, in which Mr. Cooper seems anxious to explain it away as *dramatic*—the humour of his hero, but not of himself:—

"It may be well to add a word on the subject of the tone of this book. It is the language of a man who feels that he has been grievously injured, and who writes with the ardour of youth increased by the sense of wrong. As editors, we have nothing more to do with that than to see, while calling things by their right names, that language too strong for the public taste should not be introduced into our pages. As to the moral and political principles connected with this matter, we are wholly of the side of the Messrs. Littlepages; though we do not think it necessary to adopt all their phrases—phrases that may be natural to men in their situations, but which would be out of place, perhaps, in the mouths of those who act solely in the capacity of essayists and historians."

It were lost time here to seek to determine the amount of scruple with which the above declaration may fairly be received:—but, come how he will before us, whether bilious or blithe, Mr. Cooper rarely (but for 'The Monikins' we had written *never*) fails to merit a hearing.

The Philosophy of Magic, Prodiges, and Apparent Miracles. From the French of Eusèbe Salverte. With Notes Illustrative, Explanatory and Critical. By Anthony Todd Thomson, M.D. 2 vols. Bentley.

THESE are two curious and entertaining volumes, on a subject which has engaged the attention of

philosophers and historians in all past ages,—and has not lost its hold on the popular mind, even in the present. The author having, in the course of an extensive inquiry, discovered "the fact, that the degree of scientific knowledge existing in an early period of society, was much greater than the moderns are willing to admit,—but that it was confined to the temples, and carefully veiled from the eyes of the people,"—has "endeavoured to establish a theory which maintains, that the improbability of the prodigies and assumed miracles related by the ancients is not sufficient to authorize their being regarded as fabulous, if that improbability be proved to be only apparent."

The work commences with what may be termed natural marvels: aërolites, gigantic animals, plants possessing hidden virtues, and the large class of beings which have too hastily been pronounced fabulous, but which the researches of modern science and modern travel have proved to be real. Since, therefore, "the apparent miracles related by the ancients," says M. Salverte, "explain themselves naturally, wherefore should their recitals be doubted when they treat of magical performances, which also admit of explanations not less satisfactory?"

Magic, in the very earliest times, so far from being a proscribed study, was viewed as the perfection of human knowledge—"the science which unveils the operations of nature, and leads to the contemplation of celestial powers":—

"Saint Epiphanius relates that Nimrod, in founding Bactria, established there the sciences of Magic and of astronomy, the invention of which was subsequently attributed to Zoroaster. Cassien speaks of a Treatise on Magic which existed in the fifth century, and which is attributed to Ham, the son of Noah! The Father of the Church, just quoted, places the commencement of Magic and of enchantments as far back as the time of Jared, the fourth from Seth, the son of Adam. Magic holds a prominent place in the traditions of the Hebrews. The ancient inhabitants of the land of Canaan had incurred the divine wrath by their use of enchantments. The Amalekites, fighting with the Hebrews, in their flight from Egypt, and Balak besieged in his city by the King of the Ethiopians, and subsequently by Moses, alike resorted to Magic as a mode of defence. The priests of Egypt were looked upon, even in Hindostan, as the most subtle of all magicians. * * From the earliest ages, Magic has obtained the highest consideration in Hindostan. M. Horst establishes the truth, that the collection of the *Vedas* contains many magical writings. * * If, from the East, we carry our inquiry Westward and towards the North, we find Magic bearing equal marks of ascendancy and of high antiquity. Under its name, '*Occult Science*,' it was known to the Druids of Great Britain and those of Gaul. Odin, so soon as he had founded his religion in Scandinavia, was regarded there as the inventor of Magic."

Among the Eastern nations and the Egyptians we shall find that occult science made the greatest advances; favoured, doubtless, by the superior civilization of those ancient kingdoms, and also by that speculative character which distinguished, and still distinguishes, the Eastern mind. With these, as was also the case with the witch of the 16th century, the "aim was to gain power, veneration, and an obedience that knew no bounds. After having conquered, it was necessary to insure the possession of, the sceptre; and thus an inviolable secrecy enveloped the principles of the science." From Egypt, the practice of the occult sciences passed into Greece; and in the arrangement of the various celebrated oracles, and doubtless in the choice of the sites, the Thaumaturgists took the lead. Ventriloquism, probably, gave a tongue to the sacred oaks of Dodona; while at Delphi and Didyma, intoxicating gas may have inspired the priest or priestess who delivered the response.

"It is not correct, however, to assume that, in the delivering of oracles, all was intentional imposture and deceit. Those who uttered them were often under the influence of real delirium. M. de Tiedemann very plausibly believes, that the German priestesses, prophesying amidst the din of the tumult of waters, and fixedly regarding the eddies formed on the rapid course of the river, would, in such a position, soon become vertiginous. Something similar may be seen in the cataleptic state into which the magnetizers throw their subjects who are weak in organization, and still more feeble in mind, by disturbing the imagination and fixing attention for a considerable time on a succession of monotonous and absurd gestures. * * At Didyma, previous to prophesying, the priestess of the oracle of Branchinidæ inhaled for some time the vapour of a sacred fountain. The oracle of the Colophonians, at Claros, was delivered by a priest who prepared himself by drinking the water of a basin inclosed in the grotto of Apollo. This beverage is said to have shortened his days."

The Delphic exhalation has been generally supposed to have been carbonic acid gas:—Dr. Thomson is of opinion that "it was sulphurous acid, as it caused almost frantic delirium." Fumes of tobacco intoxicated the Mexican priests, when they uttered their responses; and the Scandinavian prophetesses, as the reader may remember, previously to pouring forth "the Runic rhyme," were accustomed to drink a potion which threw them into a trance-like slumber.

The habits of observation and inquiry which the priests exercised, of course rendered them familiar with many a natural indication or prognostic which escaped the observation of the vulgar. Thus, we find them predicting coming events in a manner that must have appeared absolutely miraculous to their hearers. "The science of the aruspices and augurs was, also, founded on observations appertaining to physics, to meteorology, or to natural history." Possessed of extensive power conferred on him by his superior knowledge, it became of importance to the Thaumaturgist to conceal that knowledge from the vulgar; and, to this end, the most effectual agent was, as Michaelis remarks, a universal language, invented by the learned, and devoted exclusively to their use:—

"Almost all nations have possessed some species of sacred writings, not more intelligible to the vulgar than the hieroglyphics of Egypt. The Roman pontiffs, in their rites, made use of names and words known to themselves alone; the few we are acquainted with relate only to ceremonial; those having reference to real science have been too carefully concealed to reach us. * * In Egypt, and probably also in the temples of other countries, these mysteries were concealed under a second envelope,—namely, the language in which the invocations were couched. Chærémon gave instructions how to command the genii, in the name of him who sitteth on the Lotus—borne in a vessel, or who appears different in each of the signs of the Zodiac. These marks unequivocally distinguish Osiris, the Sun-God. Emanating from an astronomical religion, the sacred formulae transferred the language of Astronomy to magical operations. We shall prove that the sorcery and magic of the moderns were in a great measure composed of the reliques of the Occult Science formerly preserved in the temples. We can trace in it that confusion of language, so much the more striking, that nothing could give rise to it at an epoch distant from the reign of astronomical religion; so that we are authorized to affirm that it is referable to a period when its expressions were comprehended, its origin known and revered."

A natural consequence of the employment of allegorical signs was an erroneous interpretation of them by the uninitiated. This, while it increased the mystery, also increased the difficulty of discovery. Had M. Salverte proceeded with his inquiries so far as the period of the middle ages, he might have illustrated this part of his subject by most curious extracts from the writings of the alchemists. The unintelligible

sentence of useless, in with the remembrance therein re meaning mysterious or written reverence origin—and were not affirm that an emanation and these which com This opin eastern n Cabala w wonder-w of modern and gibber calling at "Abracad charm aw Thomson, over the b It has b that sever and conjun Latin and longed to manner h earliest a even the "

"To tra to dream th cers rubb the secret often was one, which and contin times mixe rilly produ of which feelings of The choice pommade a and the m bated to th in the low ledge has source."

The wo among th and in th abundant the promi by supers goat, was the Egypt sacred to of the Ep It may e Christian notions o strange t the prese tea-cup, prognost which sh tea, was, derived, muddy v divination sacred b imposing determin long lap mere co foretell t ploughm In his

sentence or uncomprehended allegory became useless, in its proper sense, to those unacquainted with the key to the mystery; but still, the remembrance of the power supposed to reside therein remained: and thus, "even when meaning was no longer attached to the terms mysteriously recited, or those graven on stones or written on parchment, perhaps a greater reverence was conceded to them, because their origin—and the measure of their real virtue—were not suspected." Thus, "the Hindoos affirm that each letter is governed by an angel, an emanation of the virtue of God's omnipotence; and these angels are represented by the letters which compose the oration, or form of incantation, by which miracles are to be wrought." This opinion is, however, common to all the eastern nations; and most of the marvels of the Cabala were believed to be wrought by the wonder-working word. Among the inhabitants of modern Europe this superstition still lingers; and gibberish is an important element in the calling at once of the quack and of the conjuror. "Abracadabra"—that magic word, believed to charm away agues,—will really, according to Dr. Thomson, "such is the influence of imagination over the body, be adequate to effect a cure."

It has been supposed, with great plausibility, that several barbarous words, used in witchcraft and conjuration, have been corruptions of those Latin and Greek words which originally belonged to more primitive tongues;—and in like manner have many rites been derived from the earliest antiquity—according to our author, even the *Witches' Sabbath*:—

"To transport themselves to the Sabbat, or rather to dream that they were transported there, the sorcerers rubbed their bodies with a sort of pomade; the secret of composing which, a secret which so often was fatal to them, is the last, perhaps the only one, which they have preserved. A sudden, deep, and continued sleep, and mournful visions, sometimes mixed with voluptuous movements, were generally produced by the magical unction, the effect of which was to combine the two most powerful feelings of the human soul—pleasure and terror. The choice of the efficacious substances of which the pomade was composed, the discovery of their virtues, and the manner of employing them, cannot be attributed to the modern sorcerers, who are always found in the lowest and most ignorant classes; this knowledge has doubtless descended from a much higher source."

The worship of the cat and of the goat was among the charges brought against the Templars; and in the 16th and 17th centuries, we have abundant proofs, in the trials for witchcraft, of the prominent station assigned to these animals by superstition. Now, the cat, as well as the goat, was ranked among the sacred animals of the Egyptians; and the former was considered sacred to Isis,—whose worship, under the title of the Ephesian Diana, passed into Asia Minor. It may appear strange that the old crone, in Christian times, should connect with her cat notions of mysterious agency; but it is not more strange than that the cunning woman, even in the present days, should cast the grounds of her tea-cup, and from their appearance pretend to prognosticate good or evil luck. The very use which she makes, to-day, of the sediment of her tea, was, more than three thousand years ago, derived, by the Egyptian priests, from the muddy waters of the Nile; and the mode of divination, prescribed most probably by the sacred books, and performed with all the imposing splendour of Egyptian worship, to determine the fate of kingdoms,—has, in the long lapse of so many centuries, become the mere conjuring trick in the farmer's kitchen, to foretell the success of the cricket match or of the ploughman's courtship.

In his eleventh chapter, M. Salverte begins,

the enumeration of the various wonders employed by the Thaumaturgists, commencing with mechanical contrivances. "The science of constructing wonderful machines was carried to a point of perfection that has never been attained in modern times," says the author; and he refers to the difficulties which the French mechanicians encountered, "in striving to place on a pedestal one of these monoliths that the Egyptians, forty centuries ago, erected in such numbers before their sacred edifices." The Temple at Eleusis seems to have been supplied with a moveable floor:—

"English travellers who visited the remains of the temple of Ceres, at Eleusis, observed that the pavement of the sanctuary is rough and unpolished, and much lower than that of the adjacent portico. It is, therefore, probable that a wooden floor, on a level with the portico, covered the present floor, and concealed a vault destined to admit of the action of machinery beneath the sanctuary for moving the floor. In the soil of an interior vestibule, they observed two deeply indented grooves, or ruts; and as no carriage could possibly be drawn into this place, the travellers conjectured that these were grooves intended to receive the pulleys which served in the mysteries to raise a heavy body; 'perhaps,' say they, 'a moving floor.' In confirmation of their opinion, they perceived further on other grooves, which might have served for the counter-balances to raise the floor."

Mechanical contrivances seem also to have been used at the entrance of the cave of Trophonius. The knowledge of the ancients in acoustics was greater than has been generally supposed; and the marvellous heads that have spoken—from that at Lesbos, which foretold the death of Cyrus, down to that of Albertus Magnus—may correctly be assigned to the same power which, some years since, astonished all London, in the name of the Invisible Girl. In optics, the success of the Thaumaturgists was great; and the aid of the "magical mirror" was often invoked:—

"The luxurious gardens, the magnificent palaces, which in the initiations suddenly appeared, from the depths of obscurity, brilliantly illuminated by magic light, or, as it were, by a sun of their own, are reproduced for us in the justly admired modern invention of the Diorama. The principal artifice lies in the manner of throwing light upon the objects, while the spectator is kept in darkness. This was not difficult, as the initiated hurried from one subterranean apartment to another; and being now elevated in the air, and again suddenly precipitated, he might easily imagine himself to be still in the bowels of the earth, from the obscurity of the place that enclosed him, although on the level of the ground."

Apparitions, says the author, though the most common of the miracles founded on optics, have yet obtained the greatest celebrity. In the third century, Lactantius represents the magicians as always prepared to convince the sceptical by apparitions of the dead, and even so lately as

"the ninth century, the Emperor Basil, the Macedonian, inconsolable for the death of his son, had recourse to the prayers of a Pontiff already celebrated for the power of working apparent miracles. An image of this dear son, magnificently apparelled and mounted on a superb horse, was made to appear before him; but, the spectral son advancing towards him disappeared, in the act of rushing into his father's arms. To explain this historical extract, it is requisite to admit the improbable supposition, that a horseman was appointed to play the part of the young Prince, as the resemblance must have been perfect; and would not the father have seized, held and folded him in his embrace? And would not the false nature of the apparition have been discovered and denounced, by the enemies of the Thaumaturgists, on the knowledge of the existence of the man; and would not the remarkable resemblance, which made him of use on this occasion, have afterwards discovered him?"

Dr. Brewster, however, has explained this apparition to have been produced by means of

two concave mirrors reflecting the image of a picture of the Emperor's son. "As the picture was approached towards the first mirror, the image appeared to advance into the father's arms; when it was withdrawn, it, of course, eluded his grasp."

The influence of the Thaumaturgists over animals was unquestionably extraordinary. M. Salverte thinks that, in many instances, this might be traced to the great care and kindness bestowed on them. It has been said, that the celebrated learned pig was brought up as much as possible like a dog; and that the attachment which he displayed to his master was really dog-like. Scents were sometimes used as a temporary influence,—and are so still. It is mentioned by Mrs. Lee, that a young half-tamed leopard fawned upon and attempted to follow her, one day, on her approaching him with a handkerchief, scented with lavender, in her hand. The effect of scents and peculiar food on animals, especially the serpent tribe, leads M. Salverte, in the second volume, to contemplate the power possessed by the Thaumaturgists in producing and modifying soporific or enebriating drinks. All aspirants to initiation, and those who came to request prophetic dreams of the gods, were prepared, not only by fasts, and then by meals expressly provided for them, but also, and lastly, by mysterious drinks, which were mostly offered as the produce of some fountain. Before visiting the cave of Trophonius, the water of Mnemosyne was administered:—

"Plutarch has preserved to us a description of the mysteries of Trophonius, related by a man who had passed two nights and a day in the grotto. They appear to be rather the dreams of a person intoxicated by a powerful narcotic than the description of a real spectacle. Timarches, the name of the initiate, experienced a violent head-ache, when the apparitions commenced; that is to say, when the drugs began to affect his senses, and when the apparitions vanished and he awoke from this delirious slumber, the same pain was as keenly felt. Timarches died three months after his visit to the grotto; the priests, no doubt, having made use of very powerful drugs. It is said that those who had once consulted the oracle acquired a melancholy which lasted all their lives, the natural consequence, no doubt, of the serious shock to their health from the potions administered to them."

Of magical formulæ, fumigations, as the reader will remember, were among the most important. The chafing-dish and the perfume always accompany the magic of the East—even in the present day; and such was the case from the earliest period.

Magical ointments appear not to have been entirely fable:—

"It cannot be disputed that the customary and frequent anointing, which formed part of the ancient ceremonies, must have offered opportunities, and giving facility for turning this knowledge to advantage. Before consulting the oracle of Trophonius, the body was rubbed with oil; this preparation undoubtedly concurred in producing the desired vision. Before being admitted to the mysteries of the Indian sages, Apollonius and his companions were anointed with an oil, the strength of which made them imagine that they were bathed with fire."

The chapter which follows, on the 'Influence of the Imagination seconded by Physical Accessories,' is chiefly devoted to the relation of well-known stories:—such as the appearance of Cæsar to Brutus, the dream of the Emperor Julian, the wraiths of the Highlanders, and the spectre of the Broken. Then come remarks on the ecstatic state produced by the imagination dwelling on one subject, or being strongly excited by the actions of others. Under this head, the dancing mania, and similar instances of over-excited fancy, are given—as well as

animal magnetism, which M. Salvarte treats with but little respect.

The Thaumaturgists pretended to raise the dead—an easy trick; and were adepts in the art of poisoning, which gave them sure means of foretelling death. Their accurate meteorological observations, doubtless, enabled them at times to foretell storms, and even earthquakes; and M. Salvarte even conjectures that they were acquainted with the method of drawing the lightning from heaven. The naphtha springs, too, furnished them with means of working numerous marvels. Phosphorus appears to have been known to them; and M. Salvarte considers that to have been the agent employed on the poisoned shirt sent by Dejanira to Hercules.

Notices of the Greek fire,—of a composition resembling gunpowder,—and of the employment of the magnet, which M. Salvarte thinks was known in the East many ages before Europe received it—follow: and in conclusion the author remarks, that, although the first Thaumaturgists cannot be accused of imposition—a conclusion scarcely borne out, we think, by the facts,—still “it would be dangerous in this day to attempt to subjugate a people by apparent miracles.”—That it would be as ridiculous as impossible would have been a more philosophic conclusion.—In an appendix M. Salvarte subjoins a long dissertation upon dragons,—and another on the musical sounds produced by the statue of Memnon. Both are very desultory:—and this, indeed, is the general character of the volumes before us. The notes of Dr. Thomson form a valuable addition to the work; but we wish that, instead of editing, he had entirely re-written, it—or, better still, produced a work of his own on the same subject.

The Modern Orlando. Cantos I. to VII. Colburn.

WHEN the title of a book is not of that matter-of-fact character which directly proclaims its intention, the first inquiry of the curious reader is into the hidden connexion between the subject and the name. Why ‘*The Modern Orlando*’? was the question which suggested itself on opening the volume before us; and finding no satisfactory answer in the text, we consulted the author’s prologue—and then his notes. In the latter we come at length upon an explanation—such as it is; and the logic thereof is somewhat Hibernian. This poem, as we understand its writer, is called ‘*The Modern Orlando*’ because it is in nearly every respect unlike the Ancient. The old Ariosto’s subject was of the chivalric ages,—so is not the Ariosto’s of to-day. The episodes of the former are legendary—those of the present *not*. “The fine harmony of his southern tongue” is incapable of “being followed by northern imitation.” What, then, is the link which assimilates these two several productions? It is the same M which created the resemblance between Monmouth and Macedon:—the nature of this work, like that of the great Italian, is “Miscellaneous.”

The fact is, the author, so far as we can make him out in this literary reflection of himself, is a “gentleman in easy circumstances,” having a friend “who keeps a yacht;” and, in the spirit of a Childre Harold who has taken mirth for his companion instead of misanthropy, runs about the world, making his reflections, moral and æsthetic,—undeterred by any fear of others, distrust of himself, or embarrassing reverence for his themes. The work has a certain smartness—which his own scales and his readers’ will probably register somewhat differently as to degree,—a shrewdness which is rarely profound enough to make the lightest reader uncomfortable,—and an occasional talent for descriptive

as well as sentimental poetry, which the author does not, however, make commonplace by too profuse exercise. As he writes his own first impressions unhesitatingly on all the monuments he meets, he must, of course, expect to meet with dissidents,—though there is nowhere evidence sufficient of malevolent intention to awaken enemies. A taste or two of his quality will be a pleasanter mode of his introduction to the reader than any further set phrases or ceremonial of our own. The interior of that dandy war ship, a yacht, is thus presented to the reader’s inspection:—

But, let me show you to the ‘Captain’s berth,’
The cabin, where he rules ‘en vai sultan,’
Circled with ‘small necessities’ of earth:—
The hookah’s fragrance through the crystal drawn,
The high-life novel (read with many a yawn);
And, glittering round the little sea-boudoir,
Enamelled pistols, daggers Ottoman;
For billets-doux, an ivory Escritoire.
With fifty bijou things, too long for my ‘mémoire.’
Buhl tables, strewed with trinkets and virtue,
Carrara marbles on consoles, around;
Some ‘Chalon’ portraits, exquisite, though few,—
(The names, of course, a mystery profound!)
A soft ‘Eolian’ sentimental sound,
Breathing at every whisper of the breeze;
All ruder tones by silken curtains drown’d.—
The little round of little luxuries,
Which make a yachtman’s life a little at its ease!
Then comes the dinner (à la Clarendon),
Covers for four (all yacht-men dine of plate,
Though, for dessert, the Sevres still is ‘ton.’)
Soup, turtle,—dinner on the board at eight.
(Two Frenchmen, two Italians, on us wait.)
Then chaise-café, a glass of ice champagne,
Johannisberg, from Metternich’s estate;
Lafitte, just sipped, to cool the wines of Spain.
Thus life is roughed at sea. “Britannia, rule the main.”

This naval gimcrack, however, with our author on board, if his verse-records are to be taken as veritable, fought and captured a pirate vessel:—

The moon was sinking softly behind Cos,
Like a sultana, couching on the sea;
I lay on deck, to see her beams emboss
Bright moon, tall minaret, and fruit-hung tree.
Anon came, slyly stealing up our lee,
A dark, long-sided, roguish-looking thing;
But not a sound was heard of gloom or glee!
She swept around us with a sullen swing,
As round the pigeon sweeps the falcon on the wing.
The “maiden moon” soon brought us to a cheek,
Played a jilt’s trick, and left us in the dark.
The boatswain piped “all hands!” all stood on deck:
Up went the signal-lanterns;—not a spark
Shone, stem or stern, about our neighbour bark.
“No answer?”—Try a shot, and get her range.”
We heard our twelve-pound message reach its mark,
She still kept weaving, looking shy and strange,
When, all at once, out burst her broadside in exchange!
This settled all our qualms; we blazed pell-mell,
Loading and firing till our guns were hot.
Our gallant ship all smoke, the air all yell,
The sea around us, like a witch’s pot,
Boiling and bubbling. Still, in that same spot,
Stood the black pirate, pouring in her fire;
Round, grape, and all the “regulation shot,”
As thick as any tourist might desire;
Both roaring, as I’ve seen old Etna’s flaming spire.

Yet now, the gale (at first we were becalmed)
Came on, in gusts that ripped the sea in foam.
The two bold brawlers mutually *salut’d*.
Each bark—smoke-covered, like a glass-house dome,
Home came our topmasts,—happy to “get home.”
The broadsides snapping mast and shroud, and sail.
I made a vow in Greece no more to roam.
Still crashed the grape, the musket shower’d its hail,
And belov’d o’er them all the thunders of the gale.
“Boarders, be ready!” was the captain’s word.
“That bark is ours.—Blue jackets, to the poop!”
Up went the helm. With pistol, pike, and sword,
We jump’d upon her deck at one fell swoop.
A pleasant sight we had—There stood a troop
Of every villain face, from Pole to Line,
Greek, Arab, Negro, a delicious group!
In front, their pikes—below, the magazine;
Above us, storm—around, the black and roaring brine!

The capture, however, was something like catching a Sea-Tartar. The pirates had set their ship on fire; and our author had such a taste of the explosion of a ‘Magazine’ as should make him callous to anything which that class of publications may do against his present volume. Flung into the sea,—and recalling the sins of his youth, to the taste of salt-water,—he was nevertheless luckily hauled on board in time, as he congratulates the world and himself, to secure the former against the loss of this

story: and retired upon that experience—leaving “*De Joinville all his naval glory.*” The following few lines will give a favourable specimen of our author’s sentimental vein:—

Few hearts have *ever* loved; but fewer still
Have felt a second passion; *none* a third!
The first was living fire; the next—a thrill!—
The weary heart can never more be stirred;
Rely on it, the song has left the bird!
—All’s for the best.—The fever and the flame,
The pulse, that was a pang; the glance, a word;
The tone, that shot like lightning through the frame,
Can *shatter* us no more!—the rest is but a name!

And a stanza, which we may quote, by way of that contrast which our author himself affects (after another model than the one whom he has acknowledged) may furnish a fair example of his illustrative felicity in characteristic description:—

Paris, thou strangest thing, of all things strange;
Young beauty, superannuated flirt;
True to one love alone, and that one, Change;
Glittering, yet grim; half diamonds, and half dirt;
Thou model of—two ruffles and no shirt!
Thy court, thy kingdom, and thy life, a game;
Worn out with age, and yet, by time unhurt;
Light without lustre, glory without fame,
Earth’s darkest picture, set in Earth’s most gilded frame.

At the Louvre, our wanderer picks up a story for his readers, which is new to us,—but which we desire *ours* to receive only on the authority of the ‘*Modern Orlando*.’ The story is a good enough story, as humorously expressive of the mystifications haunting a time when Grand-dukes might be jostled at the corner of every street, and princes were “as plentiful as blackberries.” But the sort of *incognito* claimed for an emperor in the city of *badouls*, then at high tide—and, still more, the idea of a “three single” sovereigns “rolled into one” gossiping party for such an occasion—are too extravagant to be accepted as anything else than an illustration.—Neither does the story show its best possible aspect in this its poetical dress:—

Reality has often its romance!
Who can forget that “Soldier’s” year “Fifteen”?
When Waterloo “closed all accounts” with France,
And Paris was one huge theatric scene,
Crowded with dukes and “Highnesses serene;
Where kings and kaisers daily trod the boards,
And every second woman was a queen,
And all was crowns and sceptres, cannon, swords!
Thundering and trumpeting—all Liegards, Hosts, and Hordes!

One morn, the honest, homely King of Prussia
Called on the Emperor Francis, for a stroll;
And dropping in upon their brother, Russia;
Found him at Vêry’s, at his chop and roll;
And having settled all, from Line to Pole—
Proposed to spend *one half* hour at their ease:
So, slipping Chiefs of Staff, and Grooms of Stole,
And tempted by the summer sky and breeze,
They sauntered, arm in arm, to see the Tuilleries.

They found the Louvre open, and walked in,—
Unknown; three quiet, plain, blackcoated men!
All there, as usual, bustle, crowd, and din!
A tide of peasant, soldier, citizen,—
To force the passage, was no trifle, *then*;
For, all before them was the world’s “tenth” Wonder!
(Long since all buried in its monkish den.)
The world had never seen such brilliant plunder;
I think, to strip it was a more than Gothic plunder!

As rambl’d the three sovereigns up and down,
They met a *rather* puzzled English squire,
Who, thinking them three tradesmen of the town,
Asked them all questions, to his heart’s desire:—
“Who painted this gay dame, or that old dir?”
At last, when fairly tired of picture-frames,
He said,—“I’ve now but one thing to enquire;
You have been civil, give me your three names:
I’ll send you each some trout, when next I fish the Thames.”
“You speak,” said one, “to Frederic, King of Prussia;
Now, keep your secret, stranger, and retire.”
“I,” said the next, “am—but the Czar of Russia.”
“Better, and better still!” laughed out the squire.
“Friend,” said the third, “I own I’m nothing higher,
Than Austria’s Emperor!”—“The moon’s at full!”
Their hearer roared: “*TH* not be in the mire!
I’m better than your best!—I’m no John Bull!
Good morning, lads! Ha! ha! I am the Great Mogul!”

We will further give our readers one example of the off-hand manner in which the author affixes his moralities,—social, political, or æsthetic, as the case may be—on any object that he sees—considering it thereby labelled for immortality:—and they will then have a tolerable

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idea of the stuff of which this volume is made. If the fashions are to their taste, we refer them to its pages for great varieties of the same.—An announcement in the poetical text, that the yachters, rambling about Boulogne, "laughed at" the Napoleon Pillar, is emphasized by the following note:—

"Napoleon's monument of the 'conquest' of England, which he never visited but as its prisoner. It remains the most solid burlesque in existence. Any nation but the French would have pulled it down long ago, from the mere sense of ridicule."

Now, there is a vulgar mistake about this Imperial column, altogether. It is neither an insult to the English nor a burlesque on the French,—and none but a nation of children or barbarians would have pulled it down. The pillar was never meant as a monument of the conquest of England. It was, even in its first intention, a mere military memorial,—subscribed by the officers of the grand army, to mark the fact of their long encampment in that neighbourhood, under the Emperor. That the purpose of that gathering was, or was avowed to be, an invasion of England, is beside the question.—Subsequent events prevented the full execution of the original design by those with whom it originated; and the monument was finally completed, as an historical document, by a government friendly to England, and a family whom she had sheltered—as the inscriptions record. The site is a noble one—the column is an ornament to the land, and a steering mark at sea:—and so far as it can have the interpretation which this writer and others assign to it, it stands a striking memorial to both nations of that baffled ambition, to whose discomfiture the one and the other owe their present condition of prosperity and peace.

The Past and Future of the British Navy. By the Hon. E. Plunkett, Commander R.N. Longman & Co.

FRANCE, we are told, is ambitious of becoming a naval power; and England has reason to take precautions against any sudden enterprise which may peril, if not destroy, her maritime pre-eminence. The Hon. Mr. Plunkett believes that a crisis, if not imminent, is still dependent on so many contingencies that it may occur when least expected; and that we should, therefore, hold ourselves, if not in a warlike attitude, at least in such a state of preparation as would prevent our being taken unawares. He enters into a comparative estimate of the maritime forces of the two countries; and, while he exhibits England as superior in the physical elements of strength—such as ships, stores and supplies—he asserts that France has the advantage in the number of trained seamen whose services could be rendered immediately available. Believing that he has pointed out some serious faults in our system, but that, at the same time, he has fallen into some grievous errors, we offer a few words of comment on his statements—though the subject scarcely comes within our natural range of topics.

We find uniformly that naval superiority was the result of commercial superiority; and that no nation ever maintained a belligerent, which had not previously a mercantile, marine. Such was the case with Venice, Genoa, Spain, Portugal, and Holland. And, though our author follows Victor Hugo in quoting the Punic Wars as an evidence to the contrary, we believe that they afford an incidental confirmation of the rule. Those wars arose out of the policy of the Barcine family; all of whom supported a system of conquest and territorial aggrandizement, in opposition to the commercial system which prevailed before their advent to power. They sought to establish forts instead of factories, and

demand tribute instead of barter. In consequence, a growing share of the commerce of the Western Mediterranean was transferred from Carthage to the Greek cities of Sicily and Southern Italy; and from them the Roman galleys obtained their crews when the struggle for empire began. The Romans, always unjust in relating the history of enemies, were still more so in acknowledging the assistance derived from allies; but Polybius distinctly states that their crews were chiefly collected from the Italo-Grecian States. We have no materials for estimating the commercial marine of Carthage at the time of these wars:—but there are many indications of its decline from the time that the territorial policy of the Barcine faction had triumphed over the trading system of earlier times; and, though Rome had no trained sailors, her allies could supply them in greater abundance than her rival.

The commercial marine of England is, at least, three times greater than that of France; and Frenchmen, themselves, will confess that the English are their superiors in all matters of practical seamanship:—but in time of war something more than seamanship is required. The men must be trained to the management of artillery and small arms. According to Mr. Plunkett's account, France possesses a greater number of sailors thus trained and disciplined than England,—and, therefore, would be certain of gaining signal successes at the beginning of a war. In France, the whole mercantile navy is subject to the control of the Minister of Marine; and a system of compulsory service has been established, which, though not so obviously unjust as our impressment, is far more oppressive, because it is in constant operation. But this system, while it has made the French better gunners, has certainly not made them better sailors,—as any one who has watched the shipping of different nations in Havre, or any of the northern ports of France, is well aware.

It is, however, a matter open to discussion, whether it would not be possible to introduce some system of training in the exercise of guns and small arms amongst the sailors in our ports; or whether a reserve force of marine artillery should not be maintained in our arsenals, sufficient to supply at least one experienced man to every gun, in case of an emergency. This is a practical suggestion made by Mr. Plunkett; and its merits may be left to be estimated by practical men.

The most important matter, however, discussed in this volume is, how a fleet is to be manned in the event of a war. The barbarous system of impressment would not now be tolerated. It is easy for Mr. Plunkett to talk of a factious press and seditious pamphlets; but it is neither factious nor seditious to say, that the sailor, like every other subject of the Queen, has a right to dispose of his labour to the best purchaser. We doubt whether the system of impressment could have been maintained in its rigour during the whole of the late war;—we have no doubt that it would be impossible to revive it after thirty years of peace. We must make the service desirable for sailors,—by bounties, by increased pay, by superior treatment, and by hopes of promotion. But Mr. Plunkett says that this system of recruiting would be found inadequate, on a sudden emergency. He seems to believe that a war might be commenced "suddenly," without any previous warnings of diplomacy; and he avers that M. Thiers more than meditated such a *coup de théâtre* in 1840. He further expresses his fears that some "eccentricity" on the part of French naval officers in the Pacific might lead to an explosion, which France would meet with an immediate demonstration of a

greater force than we could command. But we doubt whether "a war suddenly commenced" is within the range of possibility. It would excite the indignation of the whole civilized world against the aggressor; and whatever momentary success might be obtained would be more than compensated by the moral loss in influence and character. Some note of warning would, assuredly, announce the approach of hostilities;—Thiers himself would at least go through the formality of a declaration of war. The only danger which Mr. Plunkett seriously apprehends is a sudden outburst; and this we believe to be beyond any reasonable calculation.

Books for Children.—What would our trusty and well-beloved friend John Andersen of Denmark have said in the days when he was apprenticed to a tailor, [see *Athenæum*, No. 906] and sate stitching and sighing the while he dreamed of Elf-land, could he have foreseen that a time would come, when men should quarrel which should first get speech of him, as a Poet? Yet, so it is: the contrast between his past and his present position is not *orientalized* for the sake of effect. When we write of the struggles of men of genius, and invite the young to sympathize with the same, it is fit that we should dwell also upon their successes; and point out how these—in one compensating form or another—more constantly await honest and single-hearted energy directed towards good purposes, than the grumblers admit. We do not know how, more instructively, to begin a comment on books for the young than by calling the attention of all to so cheering an example.—Here are Andersen's *Danish Story Book*, and his *Nightingale and other Tales*, both Translated by Mr. C. Boner,—with Illustrations by the Count Pucci: in which we have met, for the third time, a version of 'Little Ida's Flowers,' and the 'Wild Swans,' and 'Ole Lucköie'; and, for the third time, on peeping between the leaves, found some word or fragment of colour so fascinating as to detain us till the tale was told to the end. The more such beautiful and delicate poetry can be diffused among our children and grandchildren the better. When we think of the calculation-morality books which were in vogue twenty years ago, and turn to these, it seems as if the World were growing young again:—bathing itself anew in the bright waters of Poesy, and still without thereby losing its dearly-bought Experience! Count Pucci's illustrations are earnest rather than graceful. Some of the initial letters and vignettes, however, show the true German fantasy: which is, also, that of fairy-land.—With these, we must notice a new issue of treasures for the young by Mr. Cundall, of Bond-street, who bids fair to become more popular among our children, than Mr. Newbery, "Corner of St. Paul's Churchyard," was with our grandfathers and grandmothers. Bound in scarlet and blue and sea-green and gold, *Gammer Gurton's Story Books* offer such tempting versions of the good old "babe-reading," that the grown man's Library of Fiction need not be ashamed of opening its doors to them. The "Famous Histories" of Friar Bacon, and of Sir Guy of Warwick, the Ballad of Fair Rosamond,—The Doleful Story of the Babes in the Wood, 'The Mad Freaks of Robin Goodfellow,' and eight other no less precious pamphlets, are before us,—beautifully printed in the quaint old style,—the border of every page illuminated, and each with a brave coloured frontispiece. Some among the last-named attractions are worth the price of the book: let us instance the illustration to 'The Merry Tale of the King and the Cobbler,' and Mr. Absolon's clever design to 'The Beggar's Daughter of Bethnal Green.'

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

A Letter to the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M.P., on the Extension of Steam Navigation from Singapore to Port Jackson. By Lieut. Waghorn, R.N.—The importance of the subject of this pamphlet, and the name of the author, are sufficient claims on the attention of all who are interested in the extension of steam navigation to the purposes of speedy communication with our Australian colonies. The first sentence in the letter speaks more cogently than and recommendation of ours.—"At the date of this pam-

phlet (20th May, 1846), the latest arrival from Port Jackson is by the ship Hooghly, which sailed direct therefrom on the 1st of January, being 140 days; and how much longer we may be without advices from the Seat of Government there is a matter of conjecture. This fact alone, if there were not many others infinitely more striking, should amply show the necessity of putting an end to a system like the present,—productive of all sorts of anxiety and uncertainty to the thousands upon thousands interested in the receipt of intelligence,—and destructive of the promptitude and regularity on which, in these days, commercial prosperity so much depends.—It is high time that something should be done to remedy so grave an evil as this. If the object proposed by Lieut. Waghorn can be attained at the outlay which he mentions, there should be no delay in the matter. Of course, only the Government can be expected to provide the necessary funds—or, at least, the greater portion of them; and we hope to find the new Secretary for the Colonies more prompt on the subject than his predecessor.

Modern Geography Simplified, and Illustrated by Moral and Historical Observations, &c. By a Member of the Society of Friends.—In the first part of this work there is not much novelty; nor do we see that the arrangement is at all superior to that of other elementary books of the same class. But in the second (which is also the longer) there are many useful moral observations. These we approve when, as in the present case, they are for the most part dictated by candid and liberal feelings. It is of still greater importance, that the author is always honest in the expression of opinions and evidently actuated by the spirit of benevolence. We recommend the book, as less mechanical than its contemporaries, and because it assumes that children have minds,—something within them distinct from the material. The truth is, that nearly all our school books are more or less open to the charge of being designed for machines, rather than for thinking creatures.

History of the Origin and Progress of the Irish Society. By W. J. M. Mason, L.L.D., Secretary to the Society.—This pamphlet has been forwarded to us by the Secretary of the Irish Society, with a request that we would correct a statement which appeared in our columns [*ante*, p. 617] to the effect that the Irish Society had been abandoned. We find, on this testimony, that the Society still exists for the purpose of proselytism, though it has given up all its educational functions. It was an educational agent only that we referred to it,—and we are glad to find that its history establishes the truth of the theory which we sought to impress upon our readers. Proselytism opens a quite different question—with which we have no inclination to meddle. The accounts given of the processes and progress of conversion from Romanism in Achill, Kingscourt, and Dingle, are beyond the pale of criticism—for they are beyond the range of ordinary comprehension. There have been some dozen “new Reformation” in Ireland; each of which proposed to take Popery by storm, and establish Protestantism by a coup de main. Each of these failed in succession;—but each exasperated passions and stimulated animosities that survived the delusions which gave them birth. It has been well said—

What more from her saints can Hibernia require?

St. Bridget of old like a dutiful daughter

Supplied her, they say, with perpetual fire,

And now her saints keep her in endless hot water.

The Secretary to the Irish Society's kettle is already at boiling-heat; and we shall not supply any of the fuel of controversy.

The Golden Treasury of Life; or, Old Sayings and True Ones. By Edward Clare.—A short collection of proverbs, apothegms and maxims, extracted from various sources;—partly from the traditional stock once so famous in English common life, and partly from well-known writers. It is, however, too brief for the subject; which might be—and, indeed, has been—rendered curious and striking. Mr. Clare is not very recondite in such matters; and we doubt whether they have nearly as much interest for him as the ‘Catalogue of Musical Works’ (by himself), which he has appended to them,—and which occupies just as many pages as the proverbs themselves. Such a mode of advertising is about as ingenious as that of a certain well-known annual almanack, in which the knowledge of times and seasons and astronomical

observations is made subsidiary to that of the drugs and medicines incorporated therewith. But, ingenious as may be the idea, we must censure its execution. We are no friends to quackery in any shape—and least of all in literature.

Studies of Public Men. No. I.—As the *Athenæum* has no vocation to politics, we are not called on to estimate the merits of this book—or rather of the particular subjects which it comprises. We may observe, however, that the author is no party man,—that he deals out a liberal share of justice to characters extremely dissimilar,—that he is by no means deficient in shrewdness,—and that he has studied to some effect the political and social tendencies of the age. But his sketches are much too brief, considering the importance of the subjects to which they relate;—whether that importance be intrinsic or not, is not the question. The characters selected for illustration have exercised, and promise to exercise, large influence on society; and the estimate formed of them should be commensurate with that influence.

Metaphysical Analysis.—The author of this little volume is a very self-complacent personage,—and believes that he has made some discovery predestined to immortality. In reality, however, he has only repeated Locke's theory, that all our ideas are derived from sensation and reflection. The question at issue between the followers of Locke and Victor Cousin is not so much about innate ideas as innate conditions, or laws, of ideas,—first started by Kant. Having missed the real point in dispute, the author arrives at a conclusion in which nothing is concluded.

On the Speculative Difficulties of Professing Christians.—The design of this work is good; but the execution is feeble,—indeed, more calculated to raise doubts than to solve them.

Lancelot Parsonage; a Tale for Children, on the Practical Use of Portions of the Church Catechism. By the Author of ‘Amy Herbert,’ &c. Edited by the Rev. W. Sewell, B.D.—*Abbotsmere; or, Illustrations of Home Education.* By Mary Gertrude, author of ‘Philip Randolph.’—Good reason might be given, we think, why the teaching offered in these two books cannot be rated as of the highest order, had not the ground been already often travelled over by us. We cannot conceive that any child will be efficiently taught the beauty of truth by a display of trickery—even though the trickery come to punishment,—or the grace of simplicity by long and laboured analyses of the motives and foibles which lead to error. Both these stories are interesting for the speculation of grown people; but as books for the guidance of children they are “nought”—because proving too much.

Letters to a Clergyman on Institutions for Ameliorating the Condition of the People. By John Minter Morgan.—This is a small book,—but one relating to a very important subject. Its fundamental principle is, that labour in communities is more easy, certain, and profitable than by individuals. Thus, three hundred families associated into one village, labouring for the common good, participating in the common profits, and subject to definite regulations, would, he contends, be in every respect better provided for than under the system now prevailing. The principle has been often tried in the New World; and, though it has sometimes failed, it has frequently succeeded. Some of the most prosperous communities on the face of the earth are now to be found in the Transatlantic forests,—consisting, in many cases, of persons who had done little either for themselves or society while isolated and exercising individual callings. The circumstances of the old world, however, are less favourable to such experiments than those of a new country. Yet even amongst ourselves, the Moravians, as everybody knows, have adopted the principle with success,—as well as on the Continent. Generally speaking, the moral and religious training of Englishmen does not qualify them for a course of life wherein the individual will must, to so large an extent, be sacrificed to the general order; but there will be found in most communities some, who, for their own advantage, would heartily co-operate in any reasonable system of domestic economy. One thing is clear—the present state of society is not what it should be; and any change recommended by sound argument, practical feasibility, and reasonable prospect of advantage, is deserving of serious consideration. The plan of Mr. Morgan has, it seems, been examined and approved;

and there is reason to believe that a model village, on his principle, will ere long be created to test it. The French Government is not insensible to the importance of this subject; having two establishments of the kind—not, indeed, for families, but for the young; and which, so far as they have been proved by time, have answered well, and are likely to answer better. We allude to Mettray and Le Petit Bourg; which Mr. Morgan visited, and which he describes in the ‘Letters’ before us. In another point of view, the project is deserving of a trial—the individual or selfish principle has existed long enough,—and, in regard to the community at large, has failed. It might be well to see whether a desire for the general good may not also be made to have some influence on human conduct,—we mean, of course, when associated with the advantage of the individuals. Selfishness has hitherto been the root of all our social evils; and any scheme which proposes its diminution is one, at least, of wholesome intention.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Anthems and Services for Church Choirs, Nos. I. II. and IV. 1s. 6d. each, No. III. 6d.
Chalmers (Rev. Dr.) On the Evangelical Alliance, with Practical Suggestions, 8vo. 1s. 6d. swd.
D'Aubigné's Discourses and Essays, Introduction by R. Baird, D.D. 12mo. 1s. 6d. swd.; cl. 2s.; roy. 12mo. 5s. cl.
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Scriptural Guide to the Duties of Every Day Life, compiled by a Lady, 8vo. 6s. cl.
Walpole's (Horace) Memoirs of the Reign of George the Second, with Portraits, edited by the late Lord Holland, 3 vols. 8vo. 36s. cl.

GREENWICH OBSERVATORY.

I request you to insert in your scientific journal the following letter, addressed to Sir Robert Inglis. The subject to which it immediately relates is important; but infinitely more important is the principle of protection against attacks made under assumed Parliamentary authority, which is involved in the protest against the transaction to which this letter relates.

G. B. AIRY.

To Sir Robert Harry Inglis, Bart., M.P.

Royal Observatory, Greenwich, July 21, 1846.

Sir,—In your place in the House of Commons, you did, on the 23rd of June, move and obtain an Order of the House for a ‘Copy or Extract of Report of Sir James South to the Admiralty, dated on or about the 22nd inst. on the probable danger of any Railway passing within a given Distance of the Royal Observatory, Greenwich;’ and the paper thus produced at your instance was ordered by the House of Commons to be printed, on the 6th of July,—and is now to be purchased of all booksellers. This paper contains various insinuations against the conduct of the Royal Observatory;—that is, against myself, the director of the Royal Observatory, who am responsible in the first degree for every transaction within that establishment. You, who were, or ought to have been, acquainted with the contents of this paper before you sanctioned its publication, did not take any measures for the reference of these insinuations to the investigation of official or scientific persons: you gave them, with the borrowed authority of the House of Commons, to the public. The person who wrote these insinuations on the 22nd of June, in order that they might be called for by you in the House of Commons on the 23rd, took no steps to use the official authority which he personally enjoys for the regulation of the Royal Observatory, to investigate or correct these faults in the conduct of the Royal Observatory. He gave his accusations, under your sanction, to the public;—to the public then shall my answer go.

I shall say little on account of the effects of gentle

tappings, South's second which phenomena the edifices public, are in the Ro 2, 3, 4, an one of Sir the trou not to be Quite tru plane of t portant." smallest d always be am incline in the inclination which the James ha endeavours tappings; v fault;” at his second the observatory are the use of after twen covered th 22nd of J shape of an the wind prevent the servatory. Now, Si and the dian, and tice, are they are to an Or probable given dist may serv ment, for publishing examin about the be offens nothing w passi Observa this insin shall sho As to v 1846, po be surpr tried at early as tended fo at the tr not wear prove th duces erc directly, on a tra assure yo the mecl ent parts therefore rect the bination direct ar positions correction the firm the who minutes with the I now following paper; “enorm “If t will, the of right mind h and on

tappings, which occupy the greater part of Sir James South's second page,—or upon the form of the rows of heads which nearly fill the third page,—except that the phenomena of both these classes, thus produced for the edification of the House of Commons and the public, are perfectly familiar to the youngest assistant in the Royal Observatory. The diagrams Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, are quite correct. But I must remark on one of Sir James's insinuations. "At Greenwich, the trough is placed lengthwise on the shelf, so as not to be offensively to the eye out of the meridian." Quite true.—"That the trough be placed in the plane of the meridian is in the highest degree important." Excuse me, Sir James, it is not in the smallest degree important. The central image can always be distinguished from the rest; and I really am inclined to believe that the judgment is assisted, in the bisection of that central point, by a trifling inclination to the wire of the line of bright points in which the place of that central point is known. Sir James has omitted the conclusion to which he is endeavouring to lead his readers,—that the observations by reflexion at the Royal Observatory are faulty; and I shall, therefore, after having rebutted his second dogma, substitute my conclusion,—"that the observations by reflexion at the Royal Observatory are as good as it is possible to make." As to the use of round troughs, &c.,—of which Sir James, after twenty years' practice without them, has discovered the utility just in time for this paper of the 22nd of June,—the general inconvenience of their shape, and the difficulty of protecting them from the wind when used for low objects, will effectually prevent them from being used in any practical observatory.

Now, Sir, these matters of long and round troughs, and the inclination of the long troughs to the meridian, and the contrast with Sir James South's practice, are in themselves totally unimportant. But they are not unimportant as appearing in a Return to an Order of the House of Commons, "On the probable danger of any railway passing within a given distance of the Royal Observatory." They may serve to you, and to other members of Parliament, for an instance of the danger of calling for and publishing the papers of private writers without due examination of their contents. The insinuation about the effects of the trough "placed so as not to be offensively to the eye out of the meridian," has nothing whatever to do with the effects of a "railway passing within a given distance of the Royal Observatory;"—but the opportunity of bringing in this insinuation was too tempting to be lost. But I shall shortly produce a far grosser instance.

As to the observation of transits by reflexion, invented by Sir James South on the 4th of June, 1846, possibly you and the House of Commons may be surprised to learn that such observations were tried at Greenwich and at Cambridge at least as early as 1827, and were rejected. The stages intended for these observations are still in existence at the transit-rooms of both Observatories. I will not weary you with the mechanical reasons which prove that, if the weight of a transit instrument produces error in one direction on a transit observed directly, it may produce error in the same direction on a transit observed by reflexion;—I will merely assure you that any person accustomed to consider the mechanical action of the weight of the different parts will perceive at once that it is so; and, therefore, that there is no certain tendency to correct the effects of flexure of a transit by the combination of direct and reflexion observations. If direct and reflexion observations are made in both positions of the transit-axis, there is a tendency to correction. But the fact is, that the transit is by far the firmest instrument in modern astronomy,—and the whole scheme is perfectly idle. And thus terminates the proposition for reflexion observations with the transit instrument.

I now come to a more serious matter. I take the following passage *verbatim* from Sir James South's paper; and I beg you to remark that the word "enormous" is there printed in italics:—

"If this principle be acted upon, as I hope it will, the enormous discordance between the differences of right ascension of Sirius and Fomalhaut, as determined by the late illustrious Bessel on the one hand, and on the other by the assistants at the Royal Ob-

servatory at Greenwich, will be explained, and perhaps corrected."

The enormous ignorance of modern astronomical history displayed in this paragraph by a *soi-disant* astronomer almost exceeds belief.

The insinuation here conveyed is, that there is a great difference between the astronomical results of Bessel's observations and those of the Greenwich observations. Could you conceive that the difference really is between the places of the stars as now seen in the heavens and their places as predicted in Bessel's 'Tabulæ Regiomontane,' published in 1830;—that this difference was discovered, or, at least, first pointed out, by Bessel himself;—that when Bessel was closing his paper upon the subject, he received the Greenwich observations, and appealed to them as triumphantly supporting his own observations;—and that upon this very discordance with the predicted place, thus supported by the Königsberg and Greenwich observations, Bessel founded the boldest of all his speculations,—namely, that some of the stars are accompanied by invisible companions? Yet so it is, in every point; and every point that relates to Greenwich shall be proved to you.

The discordance of right ascension of which Bessel has pointedly treated is that of Sirius. His memoir is contained in Nos. 514, 515, 516 of the *Astronomische Nachrichten*. In No. 516 he comes to the following conclusion (I omit the comparisons before 1825):—

"The differences of these catalogues from the 'Tabulæ Regiomontane' are—

Bessel, 1825	.....	0.000
Struve, 1825	.....	-0.006
Argelander, 1828	.....	-0.003
Airy, 1830	.....	+0.049
Fond, 1832	.....	+0.004
Busch, 1835	.....	-0.103
Bessel, 1843	.....	+0.331"

Bessel then goes on with some general remarks; and concludes his paper as follows:—

"Postscript.

"While the foregoing essay was passing through the press, I was delighted with the receipt of the latest of the volumes which, every year with increasing importance for astronomy, issue from the Royal Observatory of Greenwich. This volume (1842) contains a catalogue of 1439 stars for 1840; by the formation of which, from numerous and accurate observations from 1836 to 1841 inclusively, Mr. Airy has made a very valuable present to science. Besides this catalogue, the volume contains another, founded on the observations of 1842 *alone*. Both catalogues are very welcome for the present inquiry; since the lateness of the times to which they correspond enables them *independently* to confirm the rapid increase of the error (produced by the assumption of invariability in the proper motions of stars), which was discovered *solely* from the latest observations made here" (that is, at Königsberg). "Their results" (that is, the results of the two Greenwich catalogues) "are—

Relative Declination of Procyon,

1839	+1.76
1842	+2.78

Relative Right Ascension of Sirius, in time,

1833	+0.218
1842	+0.264

"All these results serve perfectly as a continuation of those collected above. The number of observations, however, in 1842 is hardly sufficient to answer for a few tenths of second in declination, or for a few hundredths of second of time in right ascension."

The right ascension of Fomalhaut is nowhere treated of by Bessel, as deduced from his own observations; though its discordance with the 'Tabulæ Regiomontane' in a direction opposite to that of Sirius is pointed out by him as proved by the observations of several astronomers.

And this, Sir, is "the enormous discordance between the differences, as determined by Bessel on the one hand, and on the other by the assistants at the Royal Observatory at Greenwich." Shame on the ignorant calumniator who wantonly throws about these insinuations,—inserting them in papers that purport to treat of matters with which they have no connexion, and that present no peculiar fitness for their publication, except the assumed sanction of the legislative assembly which carries them into the world! And how much of the shame, Sir, ought

to attach to the senator who lends to these malevolent essays the power which he has himself borrowed from the House of Commons?

The order of Sir James South's remarks permits me now to advert to the accuracy of the determination of the zenith points of circles.

Sir James has discovered that "22 pairs of observations (direct and by reflexion) are not enough." Let me request you to whisper in Sir James's ear, that 2,200 pairs are not enough for theoretical accuracy. As long as individual observations are liable to error, so long will all combinations of observations, in whatever number, be liable to error. The question is a question of degree only. I will endeavour to give some results that will enable you to judge of this degree.

I will suppose (what I believe to be perfectly true) that observations by reflexion are as good as observations by direct vision. And, to fix our ideas, I will suppose that the probable error of any observation is 1".

Then, if the observation of a star be combined with a zenith point determined by one star, the probable error of the result is 1".23. If the zenith point is determined by two stars, the probable error of the result for a star is 1".12. If three stars are used, it is 1".08. If six, as allowed by me, it is 1".04. If twenty-two, as rejected by Sir J. South, it is 1".01. If 2,200, it is 1".0001.

Now, if Sir James South really does continue to think that it is worth while to increase the number of reflexion-observations from 6 to 22, in order to diminish the probable error of a result from 1".04 to 1".01, I know no means of inducing him to change his opinion. It is proper to remark, that the small part depending on the reflexion-observations is not of the nature of a constant error;—the zenith point being determined independently every night or every two nights.

It is also proper to remark, that a smaller number of reflexion-observations is required now than was necessary when two circles were used. A trifling computation shows, that the probable error of zenith point depending on six pairs with one circle is no more than that depending on twelve pairs with two circles combined with twelve other pairs of comparison-observations.

But, perhaps, Sir, you may desire to know what is the opinion of competent judges upon the results which the Observatory, under the system despised by Sir James South, really does produce. I have given Bessel's opinion on the declinations of Procyon; the only opinion besides this which has met my eye is one by Encke, in the *Astronomische Nachrichten*, No. 550. The subject of the paper is a very important one—the latitude of the new Observatory of Berlin. This was determined (among other ways) by the use of the transit instrument in the prime vertical; a method which requires the catalogued places of stars, but which is considered by the German astronomers as giving a more accurate determination of the difference of declination than any other method. The observations were made on the two stars, θ Ursæ Majoris and β Draconis: the absolute declinations were taken from Encke's Catalogue, from Argelander's, and from the Greenwich Catalogue of 1439 stars. The remark of Encke is—"The agreement of the Greenwich differences of declination with those here observed is far more satisfactory than with the two other determinations; for the discordance with the Greenwich differences is only 0".4, while the discordance with both the other determinations [Encke's and Argelander's] amounts to 1".—I think, Sir, that the Greenwich Observatory may yet hold up her head, without adopting Sir James South's suggestions.

And now, Sir, permit me to ask you if it is not a disgraceful thing that the director of a government institution should be compelled to resort to this step, to defend himself?—and if this shameful necessity has not been induced entirely by your sanction to the utterance of calumnious insinuations, under parliamentary authority? If Sir James South had made his remarks in his official place at the Board of Visitors of the Royal Observatory, he would have received such instruction and explanation as would have prevented further mischief. If he had brought them before any scientific society, they would probably have been laughed out,—and there their evil

would have terminated. But he prefers to bring them under your protection, which was meant for a different purpose;—and you give this protection without examining what it is which you thus protect. In your honour in private transactions I have the most perfect confidence. I am certain that, if your sanction were requested for the circulation of a paper apparently affecting private interests, you would give it cautiously. Ought not the same caution to be used when you give that sanction in the solemn character of senator? And ought not that caution to be even increased when the public station of the person attacked gives ruinous force to these public attacks; at the same time, that it legally or morally denies him the recourse to action for libel which a private person might urge? As regards the injury which it could do to me, I could very well pass over this particular attack; but it is not the first which has been produced in the same manner: and I am unwilling any longer to restrain my protest against the principle involved in it.—With very great private respect, I remain, Sir, your obedient and faithful servant,

G. B. AIRY.

AUSTRALIAN DISCOVERY.

Bath, July 20.

THE review, in the *Athenæum* of June 27, of Capt. Stokes's Discoveries in Australia, and the editorial note on Capt. Sturt's Australian Expedition, point out with precision the true direction in which alone exploration can be prosecuted, with hope of success in resolving the obscure points relating to the geography of the interior of New Holland.

It is to be hoped that those suggestions will not be permitted to fall to the ground. How could the Council of the Geographical Society be better employed than in promoting, with or without the assistance of Government, an expedition, which, ascending the Albert River to the highest navigable point, and there making a temporary station, should detach a smaller party to the S. or S.E. as might be found practicable, with a view to explore the nature of the comparatively small tract of country intervening between the extreme points reached by Captains Stokes and Sturt respectively.

I would propose that the scientific conductors of such an expedition, being appointed in this country, should proceed by Egypt to an Indian port, with the means and authority for there chartering a vessel of moderate tonnage and small draught of water, for the ascent of the Albert.

I beg to differ on one point from the suggestions contained in the review,—viz., as regards the employment of camels. However suitable they might be for an expedition from the south, they appear to me unnecessary and unadvisable in any attempt from the north,—which is, in all respects, the most promising point.

There, Captain Stokes found both grass and water, with a level country: so that it would appear that the face of the land is such as would neither require nor justify the use of those animals; and they might prove a source of trouble and embarrassment instead of advantage.

In the manner which I have suggested, I believe that much might be done in a comparatively short time and at moderate expense: while, in case of success, complete or partial, similar experiments might be repeated from the western and eastern sides of the continent;—assuming, what I believe to be the case, that all attempts from the S. and S.E. are likely to be fruitless.

However such points may be decided, there can be no hesitation in asserting that it is not creditable to the character of the nation, either in point of science or policy, to leave important geographical problems unsolved, without making any attempt to overcome difficulties less than those which our polar navigators have set at defiance.

H. J. WILMOTT, R.N.

Since the above letter reached us, the Indian Mail has brought to the Royal Geographical Society, from Singapore, intelligence of great interest respecting the fate of Dr. Leichardt and his party—for whom the most serious apprehensions had been entertained. It is gratifying to announce that the enterprising travellers have, with one sad exception, arrived safely at Port Essington,—after sixteen months journeying in the desert, amid privations and difficul-

ties of the most trying kind.—Our readers will remember that Dr. Leichardt, accompanied by Mr. Gilbert, a naturalist, and six others, started from Moreton Bay, in October, 1844, to penetrate to Port Essington; in order, if possible, to open a direct route to Sydney, right across the country. In the spring of 1845, various reports arrived at Moreton Bay of the party having been cut off by the natives. To ascertain the truth, an expedition was sent out in August last, under the command of Mr. Pemberton Hodgson; which traced the party for a distance of four hundred miles, far beyond the place of their supposed massacre—but was ultimately compelled to return, with a hope only of the probable safety of the adventurous explorers, who have at length brought their journey to a successful termination. Dr. Leichardt found it impossible to penetrate into the interior in a direct course, on account of high tableland and the absence of water; and this circumstance compelled him to keep within six or seven degrees of the coast. Their six months' provisions being exhausted, the only resource of the party was the horses and stock bullocks,—and with these the strictest economy was necessary. One was killed as provision for a month—sometimes a horse, at others a bullock. For six months prior to reaching Port Essington, the party were reduced to 1 lb. of meat per day—frequently putrescent,—unaccompanied with salt, bread, or any kind of vegetable. In the neighbourhood of the Gulf of Carpentaria, Mr. Gilbert, the naturalist, and Mr. Calvert, having been separated from the main body, went to sleep on the ground without keeping watch. They were surprised by the natives; and Mr. Gilbert was first speared, and then his brains were dashed out with a club. Mr. Calvert, although speared through both legs, managed to rejoin his party. The travellers at length reached Port Essington, on the 2nd of December, 1845; and, after a six weeks' sojourn to recruit, they sailed for Sydney, in the Heroine.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

[From our own Correspondent.]

York, Thursday, 23rd of July.

THE annual meeting of the Archæological Institute commenced on Tuesday last, in this city. The Society was established in the year 1843: held its first general meeting at Canterbury—its second at Winchester—and comes now, appropriately, for its third, to the Eboracum of the Romans and great cathedral city of the north. A society like this can scarcely err in the selection of a particular locality for the scene of its anniversary meeting. England abounds in objects of antiquarian interest; and York and its neighbourhood have much to invite and detain the student who loves to illustrate and revive the past. The antiquary who confines his labours to Roman remains in Britain, finds in York and its vicinity (at Aldborough especially) ample range for his especial research, without creating imaginary roads, or indulging his fancy in visionary cities and questionable encampments. The historian sees before him a city rich in its associations,—with walls and towers and gates made memorable on many historical occasions. The architect has a rich field for investigation in the proportions and details of its noble Minster,—a study in itself; without the additional attractions of Beverley and Fountains, Rievaulx and Byland, and the lesser localities in the immediate environs of the town. The selection was, therefore, in all respects, a wise one,—nobly responded to, we are glad to find, by the authorities of the place. Meetings of this kind deserve to succeed. They extend information;—their members teach and are taught. The local antiquary finds friends from distant places to sympathize with him in his pursuits. Ideas are exchanged, information is obtained, and industry is awakened. The labourer learns, from such, to preserve the vessel or the coin, which chance has turned up with the earth upon his spade; and churchwardens at least to hesitate before they begin to “beautify and repair.” Much is doing, and much remains to be done: but the discussion of the last is hardly our province at present. The Institute is, as yet, only feeling its way,—has honorary secretaries, and honorary committees,—and funds hardly sufficient,

so far, for all the purposes for which it was established.

The General Meeting was held in the Festival Concert Room, on Tuesday at one o'clock. Among the members present, we observed the Marquis of Northampton, Earl Fitzwilliam, Viscount Downe, the Dean of York, the Dean of Westminster, the Dean of Ely, the Dean of Hereford, Archdeacon Wilberforce, Archdeacon Churton, Dr. Plumtree, the Rev. William Vernon Harcourt, Sir Richard Westmacott, Sir John Boileau, Sir William Lawson, M.P., the Lord Mayor of York, the Recorder of York, Sir Joseph Guest, Sir Roderic Impey Murchison, Prof. Phillips, Prof. Willis, Rev. Joseph Hunter, Rev. J. L. Petit, Rev. Charles H. Hartshorne, Mr. Hawkins, of the British Museum, Mr. Shaw (so well known by his illuminated books), Mr. J. G. Nichols, &c.

The MARQUIS OF NORTHAMPTON, the President of the Institute for the past year, observed, that the very pleasing duty had devolved upon him of placing Earl Fitzwilliam in the chair on this occasion. We had come, he was glad to think, to a county rich beyond example in noble memorials of the past—entire and in ruins. His noble friend had always felt an interest in Archæology; and was proud, he was glad to think, to preside on this occasion. Had societies of this kind existed before, St. Mary's might have rivalled Rievaulx and Fountains. There was much for them to see. Since he had come here, he had seen a ruin which he had never seen before—and a very remarkable one it was. He alluded to that part of St. Leonard's Hospital recently laid open. It was formerly a wine cellar,—seldom seen by any other person than the owner of the wine, and of greater celebrity for the splendour of its cobwebs than of its architecture. He was glad to think that it was not again to be enclosed, but to form a part of the grounds belonging to the Yorkshire Philosophical Society. Before sitting down, he must express his regret at the absence of their friend Mr. Way,—and at the loss which the Institute had recently sustained in the death of Mr. Gally Knight. He was glad, however, to see the Lord Mayor of York present on this occasion—the only Lord Mayor of a city in England, he must observe; for it was not very generally known that the Lord Mayor of London, as he is called by courtesy, was only, in fact, Lord Mayor of Finsbury. He was glad, he would repeat, to see the Lord Mayor of York present on this occasion, and to observe the interest taken by him in the advancement of Archæology. The Lord Mayor of London had recently shown a particular regard for Science and Literature, and he was pleased to find the Lord Mayor of York doing as much for Archæology. They deserved to be patterns in this respect, not only to Lord Mayors, but to mayors, also.

The Marquis of Northampton then resigned the chair to EARL FITZWILLIAM:—who addressed the Meeting at some length, and with great good sense and good feeling. He observed how much pleasure he felt at seeing the members of the Institute present on this occasion, and what gratification it gave him to be enabled to preside over a meeting of this description—composed of members who divided their time, for a week at least, so agreeably between recreation and instruction. The study of Archæology was now looked upon as something more than mere grubbing in the dark—the industry and learning of the present generation had formed it into a kind of science. The illustration of the past was indeed a delightful and a necessary pursuit. Monuments themselves require memorials at the last; and he knew of no body better calculated to preserve and illustrate the noble memorials of our country than the Institute he had now the honour to address. He could enlarge on such a subject—but they had much to do and much to see; and he knew that their time was valuable.

The DEAN OF HEREFORD (Dr. Merryweather) moved a vote of thanks to the Marquis of Northampton for his conduct in the chair during the past year. The Hon. Mr. Stapleton seconded it,—and the proposition was carried with great acclamation.

The MARQUIS OF NORTHAMPTON returned thanks; and expressed the great gratification which he had felt in the office of President. He had

loved antiquary, particular, had been to mixed up had been Dr. Leichardt to his general to his had ever us would seem his position at least was

The Dean moved a vote of Council and on the great establishment Much had been of the Archæological Institute established the advantage of an Archæological Institute the churches at benefit derived was, that to the stone We were puzzled length and he saw Coventry beautiful go the parishable It was the sister. But this was to be p—and he stepped George Step every prospect the quarries whereas we Bath stone nature of all c he was glad lament were during mater hearing the they had been inclined to do were first cut

Dr. PLUM (Oxford) moved to be present or make our co to promote a serves to be now in has medieval arc appreciate at treated that to the preserv interesting, b

Mr. HAWKING adjourned conversations in the curiosities of the Museum

The Museum several heads Antiquities, Enamels, La Vaseles, Eccl small Ornaments called 'Crom articles may of Saxon ory Lancashire—smelt of stone and beautiful series of ivory century,—with ful in concept of Mr. Haillst—and some which the co shed with a v interesting, williams,—th Farley Hall,

loved antiquarian pursuits, and architecture in particular, since he was a mere boy. The office had been to him a labour of love. True, it was mixed up with one or two unpleasantnesses: he had been drawn into controversy—a course ungenial to his nature; but that was over,—and if he had ever used stronger language than the occasion would seem to justify, he was indeed sorry. But his position was peculiar; and his, on this occasion, at least was *defensive* and not *offensive* pride.

The DEAN OF WESTMINSTER (Dr. Buckland) moved a vote of thanks to the Vice Presidents, Council and Officers of the Institute; and enlarged on the great advantages to be derived from the establishment of an Institute of this description. Much had been effected in France by the labours of the Architectural Society of Normandy; and a kindred institution in this country was at least not established too soon. He need not remind them of the advantages to be expected from the formation of an Architectural Section in the Institute—in amending largely the future architectural productions of this country—in the restoration of old churches and the construction of new. Another benefit derived from the establishment of the Institute was, that great attention was now being paid to the stone used in the construction of buildings. We were pursuing our inquiries through the whole length and breadth of the land. No one who ever saw Coventry but found occasion to regret that the beautiful gothic edifices of that city were built of the perishable red sandstone of the neighbourhood. It was the same at Whitby, and the same at Chester. But this would not occur again. Caen stone was to be purchased in London at 1s. 6d. a foot;—and he had been recently informed by Mr. George Stephenson, the engineer, that there was every prospect of being able to sell stone from the quarries about Chatsworth at 1s. a foot—whereas we were paying in London 2s. a foot for Bath stone at the present moment. The architecture of all countries depends upon its stone; and he was glad to think the new Houses of Parliament were being constructed of hard and enduring material. He had seen stones from Pœstum bearing the marks of the chisel—as sharp as if they had been made but yesterday,—and he was inclined to think harder than they were when they were first cut.

Dr. PLUMTRE (Master of University College, Oxford) seconded the resolution. He was glad to be present on this occasion. Whatever tends to make our country a greater object of interest, or to promote a local feeling for local antiquities, deserves to be encouraged. The county we were now in has not only the best buildings of our mediæval architecture, but the taste and spirit to appreciate and preserve what it possesses. He trusted that the same spirit would be extended to the preservation of some of the smaller, but very interesting, buildings in the city.

Mr. HAWKINS returned thanks:—and the Meeting adjourned, to inspect the Minster, the recent excavations near the old Multangular Tower, and the curiosities collected by the Council in a temporary museum in St. Peter's School, in the Minster Yard.

The Museum of the Institute is divided into several heads:—Early British Antiquities, Roman Antiquities, Saxon Antiquities, Early Limoges Enamels, Later Limoges Enamels, Ecclesiastical Vessels, Ecclesiastical Vestments, Articles of Personal Ornament, and a very interesting collection called 'Cromwelliana.' Among the more important articles may be enumerated two very curious trays of Saxon ornaments in silver, found in Cuerdale, in Lancashire—one especially interesting, being an amulet of stocking-stitch pattern, intricately neat and beautiful. Sir Richard Westmacott exhibits a series of ivory reliefs from a casket of the fourteenth century,—with some of the figures extremely graceful in conception and delicate in execution. Some of Mr. Hailstone's late enamels are very beautiful—and some of Mr. Way's earlier examples, in which the copper is incised and the cavities are filled with a vitreous paste, extremely curious and interesting. But the great feature is the 'Cromwelliana,'—the property of F. H. Fawkes, Esq., of Fawley Hall, near Otley. The first lot (to adopt

the divisions of an auctioneer) is Oliver Cromwell's own sword—('the sword of the Lord and of Gideon,') double-edged, with a single guard—thin, from frequent use, and with the name of Andrea Ferrara on either side nearly obliterated—part of the name Andrea alone remaining.—Lot 2. is Oliver Cromwell's hat—a Quaker's drab, with a six-inch brim—a fit companion to Cardinal Wolsey's hat, sold at Strawberry Hill.—No. 3. is Oliver Cromwell's watch—a small repeater, with the name of the maker 'Jaques Cartier' upon it. The outer case is of leather, studded with silver.—Lot No. 4. is the sword of Sir Thomas Fairfax—a broadsword, basket-hilted, bearing the maker's name—'Andrea Ferrara,' and the marks a globe and a sceptre. The hilt is richly ornamented with silver, and the blade broad, as if it had been but seldom ground.—Lot No. 5. is the sword of General Lambert, with the date 1648 and the figure of a running dog upon the blade. It is serrated at the back,—and the pommel is of brass gilt, wrought into the form of a lion.—Lot No. 6. is the original matrix of the seal prepared, by the Commonwealth, for the approval of ministers "ordered to travel through England to preach." In the centre is a book displayed, with the title "the Word of God,"—around are palm branches, and the motto on the margin is "The Scale for the Approbation of Ministers." This is perhaps the work of Rawlins—it is hardly delicate enough for the work of Simon.

Tuesday's proceedings closed with an entertainment at the Mansion House, given by the Lord Mayor;—who enters with great cordiality into all the proceedings of the meeting. His Lordship exhibited his swords and seals of office—and the curiosities (unfortunately few in number) belonging to the corporation. A pearl cup may be mentioned, set with twelve brilliants and twelve onyx stones, and a white coffee-pot of china of unusual occurrence.

The Sections commenced their meetings on Wednesday—the Architectural Section in the Festival Concert Room (Prof. Willis in the chair),—the Historical Section in the Hospitium of St. Mary's Abbey, and the Mediæval Section in the Savings Bank, in St. Helen's Square.

Architectural Section.—Mr. PETIT read a paper, by Mr. CHARLES WINSTON, 'On the Painted Glass in the Cathedral and Churches of York.'—"Few cities can boast of more extensive and important remains of painted glass than York. The examples extend over a period of nearly four centuries; but it is the almost unbroken series of glass paintings of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries which renders this collection so interesting to the student. The greater portions of these specimens are in the Minster; and their value, as evidences of the state of the art at different periods, has been enhanced by Mr. Browne's laborious investigation of a vast mass of original documents relating to the building and adorning of the cathedral,—which has enabled him to assign dates to most of the windows with remarkable precision. It is not my intention to enter into any detailed statement concerning these windows; but simply to point out, as nearly as I can, the order in which they should be examined—leaving it to the student to ascertain the difference of style, and referring him for particular dates to Mr. Browne's History of the Cathedral. The earliest painted glass in this city—and indeed the earliest specimen that I am acquainted with in England—is a portion of a *Jesse* in the second window from the west on the north side of the clerestory of the nave of the cathedral. It forms the upper subject in the westernmost lower light of this window. The date of the glass is about 1200; it is therefore much earlier than any of the early English glass at Canterbury Cathedral,—to which I do not think a date can be assigned much earlier than the middle of the thirteenth century. A coloured engraving of this very curious example is given in plate 123 of Mr. Browne's History. Much early English glass, varying in date from the beginning to the middle of the thirteenth century, has been employed to fill the wheel of tracery in the head of the last-mentioned window, as well as the wheels in the tracery of the five next clerestory windows. The upper tier of subjects in the lower lights of the fifth and seventh windows, count-

ing from the west on the north side of this clerestory, are also early English. An early English subject is inserted in one of the lower lights of the sixth clerestory window, counting from the west. The wheels in the tracery of all but three of the clerestory windows on the south side of the nave are likewise filled with early English glass; and early English glass paintings are also to be found amongst the subjects in their lower lights. Coloured engravings of some of this glass are given by Mr. Browne. One plate, of great value to the antiquary, represents a series of borders, from the commencement to the middle of the thirteenth century.—The next glass in order of date is that in the Five Sisters,—which beautiful pattern windows are of the latter half of the thirteenth century. It is hardly necessary to observe, that the glazing of the five lancet windows above the Five Sisters is modern. Some glass of the same character and date as that in the Five Sisters has been inserted in the tracery of the second window from the door in the vestibule leading to the Chapter House. Of the same character are the remains of a very nice early English window, of the latter half of the thirteenth century, inserted in two decorated windows on the north side of the church of St. Denis, or Dionis, in Walmgate, in this city.—The next glass in order of date is that in the Chapter House and the vestibule leading into it. This is all of the time of Edward II., and is an extremely beautiful specimen of early decorated work. One window of the Chapter House, that opposite the entrance, is a restoration by Messrs. Barnett & Sons, of York. It has been carefully executed; and, if it does not produce so satisfactory an effect as the original windows, this arises not from the fault of the artist, but from the impossibility of procuring, at the present day, a material similar in texture to the glass of the fourteenth century.—The next glass in order of date is that in the Cathedral, in its clerestory and aisles. This glass is all of the time of Edward III. The contract for glazing the great west window is dated 1330,—and none of the glass is probably later than 1350. The general arrangement and execution of the designs throughout this part of the building are well worthy of notice, as evincing the attention paid by our ancestors to general effects in these matters. The west windows of the nave and aisles, of which distant views may be obtained, have their lower lights filled with large figures and canopies; while the windows of the aisles, with but one exception, are adorned with paintings of a more complicated character, and better calculated for a closer inspection. Much of the plain geometrical glazing in the clerestory windows is original; and, like that in a similar position in Cologne Cathedral, affords a proof that the ancient glass painters did not consider themselves bound to finish patterns destined to occupy a distant position as highly as those placed nearer the eye. Some decorated glass, of the same character and date as that in the nave, has been placed in the first window from the west of the south aisle of the choir. The second and third clerestory windows from the east on the south side of the choir contain similar glass; which, as I conjecture, has been removed thither from one or other of the two flank side windows of the north and south aisles of the nave. Many of the churches in the city possess good decorated glass in their windows. I may mention, in particular, the east window of the north aisle of All Saints', North-street, and the westernmost window of the north aisle of St. Martin's cum Gregory. There are also the remains of a decorated *Jesse* in St. Dene's, or St. Dione's, Church,—and some very perfect decorated designs in the first and second windows from the east on the north side of that building. The earliest perpendicular glass in the cathedral is contained in the third window from the east in the south aisle of the choir—in the third and fourth windows from the east in the north clerestory of the choir, and in the fourth clerestory window from the east on the opposite side of the choir. These windows are of the latter part of the fourteenth century. There is also an early perpendicular *Jesse* in the third window from the west in the south aisle of the choir. The date of the east window of the choir is well known—a contract for glazing it in three years was made in 1404. This window is one of the best executed that I have

ever seen—the beauty of the figures, however, cannot be fully appreciated without inspecting them closely from the gallery near the window. The other windows of the choir aisles, eastward of the small eastern transepts, as well as the glass in the lancet windows on the east side of the great western transepts, appear to be likewise of the time of Henry IV. All the rest of the glass in the choir is of the reign of Henry V. and Henry VI.—the greater portion belonging to the latter reign. The chief peculiarity that I have observed in these windows is, that the white glass which enters so largely into their composition is, generally speaking, less green in tint than usual. Mr. Browne has informed me, that it clearly appears from the Fabric Rolls, that the white glass is of English manufacture,—which circumstance may serve to account for its whiteness. There is some very good glass of the time of Henry VI., in the east and other windows of All Saints' Church, in North-street; the east window has not been improved by the modern restorations which appear to have been made in ignorance of the fundamental principles of the perpendicular style of glass painting. St. Martin's Church, Coney-street, contains much painted glass of the time of Henry VI.—of good character, and valuable as affording an example of a general arrangement of designs throughout an entire building. Some glass of the reign of Henry VII. has been inserted in the four upper south windows of the great west transept of the cathedral. The heads of some, if not of all, of the figures are restorations. A very beautiful *cinq-ento* glass-painting, of the latter half of the sixteenth century, has been inserted in the window next the east of the south aisle of the choir. It was presented to the cathedral by Lord Carlisle in 1804, and was brought from a church at Rouen. The design is evidently taken from a painting of Barocci, (who died in 1612, aged 84); but the colouring and execution have been varied to suit the nature of the material employed. I infer from the column-like arrangement of the groups, as well as the actual division lines of the glass, that this work was originally painted for a four-light window; and I may be permitted to observe, that it affords a proof that it is not impossible to unite the drawing and colouring of an advanced period of Art to the true practice of glass-painting. In the windows by Peckitt, at the south end of the great west transept, the principles of painting upon glass and painting upon canvas are confounded together; in attempting to imitate the depth of an oil-painting by shadows alone, he has simply produced opacity,—than which no greater fault can be committed in glass painting. I cannot conclude these remarks without expressing a hope, that before this meeting separates, some measures will be taken for cataloguing all the painted and stained glass in the Cathedral and churches of this city. A correct and properly detailed account of the glass in the Cathedral alone would be a most valuable addition to our Archaeological publications. Many of the windows in the Cathedral are histories in themselves,—and contain information which can hardly be collected elsewhere. The French antiquaries have already made correct catalogues of the glass in many of their principal buildings, and why should not their example be imitated in England?"

Mr. Winston's paper concluded.—Earl Fitzwilliam took the chair:—and Professor WILLIS proceeded to deliver his promised Lecture on the Cathedral to a crowded audience.—It was not his intention, he said, to attempt any original views. The minute details of the history of the Minster were well known. Mr. Browne had gone into them with great exactness, and he (Professor Willis) had no new records to produce. He should, therefore, content himself with making a general acknowledgment to Mr. Browne's elaborate work,—and proceed to illustrate the existing edifice by slight references to preceding buildings, and to the authorities referred to by Mr. Browne. A wooden church was erected on the site of the present Minster, in the year 627. This was repaired,—perhaps re-built—in 669, and consumed by fire in 741. No traces remained. A second cathedral was erected by Archbishop Egbert, a Saxon archbishop; and a third cathedral by Archbishop Thomas, the

first Norman archbishop after the Conquest,—the earliest church of which any remains exist. It was the practice of the Norman archbishops and bishops to obliterate the work of the Saxons, as too mean and insignificant,—and to erect (they were excellent architects) structures of their own more in accordance with the pomp and grandeur of their notions. The only Saxon bishop who was allowed to retain his see subsequent to the Conquest was Wolstan, Bishop of Worcester. Wolstan caught the prevailing spirit of his Norman brethren; he pulled down the simple Norman cathedral of his Saxon see, and erected a Norman structure on a complicated plan. He mentioned this, to show that the feeling was universal. The church of Archbishop Thomas was destroyed by fire in the year 1154; and Archbishop Rogers, who then held the see, proceeded at once to rebuild the Cathedral. He commenced with the choir,—and, as was then the custom, on a larger plan and in a different style of architecture. No traces of the Saxon church remained, or of the churches of Archbishop Thomas and Archbishop Rogers, except in the crypt. Here it was, then, that we must go, to see what the churches of the two Norman archbishops were like. And here, he would remark that the Cathedral at Canterbury and the Cathedral at York severally served to illustrate one another. Lanfranc, the first Norman archbishop of Canterbury, rebuilt the cathedral of his see—as Archbishop Thomas, the first Norman archbishop of York, rebuilt the cathedral of his; and Archbishop Anselm enlarged the plan of Lanfranc—as Archbishop Roger enlarged the plan of Archbishop Thomas. Now it was evident to any one who would visit the crypt with a careful eye (and by the liberality of the Dean and Chapter the crypt had been lighted with gas, for the full convenience of investigation,) that there were traces in the crypt of two distinct churches—Norman churches he would call them—one the church of Archbishop Thomas and the other the church of Archbishop Roger. Mr. Browne contended, he was well aware, that one, at least, of the churches was Saxon; but he saw no reason to join with him in thinking so. Of the two sets of Norman columns in the crypt—the decorations of one were hewn with the rough vigour of an axe, the ornaments of the other with the fine nicety of the chisel. The church which Roger built had side aisles with towers—an apse, in all probability, at the east end—and three apses at the east end of each of the transepts. Now, if he were asked, why he stated this with so much confidence, he would answer, from a careful examination of the existing building and a careful comparison with the cathedrals. There were no side aisles to these transepts,—and transepts with side aisles never had apses. Roger's church, according to the usual restlessness of mediæval architects, was found too small; and Archbishop Walter Gray began to rebuild the transepts in the Early English style of Architecture,—the style which prevailed when the Archbishop lived. The south transept (the earliest part of the existing superstructure,) was built about 1220; and the north transept, and the tomb of Archbishop Gray in the south transept, were built about 1260. These are very beautiful specimens of Early English; and valuable, moreover, from being dated examples, by which we are enabled to assign undated churches to a particular reign when we know a certain style with certain decorations prevailed among us. The transepts finished, the nave of Archbishop Roger was next attacked;—and in the year 1291, the present nave was commenced, in the prevailing style of the period—distinguished as the Decorated. Here we have another excellent dated example; and here he would wish to direct the attention of his hearers to a very peculiar feature in the formation of a part of the present transepts. When the nave and choir were rebuilt, the Early English transepts of Archbishop Gray interfered considerably with the harmony and beauty of the new enlargements. Recourse was, therefore, had to a piece of skilful engineering—common enough in the present day, but certainly unusual when the nave of the present Minster was built. What they did was this:—they shored up the walls—removed a pier arch on either side, and built decorated arches on Early English bases. His description perhaps was not very clear;

but his diagrams would show it,—and in the building itself, it was very evident. Trace the triforium,—which is all Early English; and then, carry the eye down to the pier arches: and you will perceive the difference in a moment—with this curious circumstance, that the alteration was attended with danger. The new decorated arches began to press inwards; and the architects who enlarged the nave were compelled to build up an arch on either side, to support the triforium which they had left remaining.—He did not know that he had anything else to observe: and the minor details and differences would, perhaps, be best explained in the Cathedral itself; where, when the Section should be over, he would, with the permission of his hearers, attend to illustrate what he had already, he feared, only indicated—and that, moreover, imperfectly.

When the applause which attended Prof. Willis's lecture had ceased,—Dr. BROWNE, the historian of the Minster, proceeded to reply to certain portions of it. He differed entirely, he said, on the subject of the crypt, from the gentleman who had just addressed them. He was of opinion that part of the crypt was Saxon,—and that the columns assigned by the Professor to Archbishop Thomas were really of Saxon workmanship. The Saxon writers described the church in language totally untrue, if Prof. Willis's description of a Saxon church were received as applicable to the church taken down by Archbishop Thomas. Then, on the subject of the apse at the east end of the choir, he had to observe, that, when the excavations were made in the crypt, not a single stone was to be discovered that could indicate the least trace of such a structure.

Prof. WILLIS, in reply, observed that the Saxon church was, no doubt, an extraordinary effort for the age in question; but no argument could be drawn from extravagant descriptions. Our Saxon forefathers had no better idea of a beautiful building than what a Saxon church could supply,—and, moreover, invariably praise their own works as the best which they had seen. With regard to the apse at the east end, he had to observe, that the eastern ends of Norman churches generally terminated in apses. Some, it is true, were square ended,—but the general termination was known to have been an apse. He could distinctly trace the springing of a Norman apse in the east wall of the south transept; and this certainly seemed to countenance an apse at the east end of the choir.

The Section then adjourned;—and the members of the Institute and their friends followed Prof. Willis to the Cathedral. The awkward relation between the three compartments of the triforium in the transepts, and the shore pier arches below, was the subject of universal remark; and all that the Professor said was listened to with the utmost attention. Prof. Willis has the art of popularizing his subject; and, thoroughly master of what he has to say, pleases at the same time every description of listener. The Minster, however beautiful in itself, is not so fine a subject for a lecture as Canterbury or Winchester. We miss Gervase and William of Wykeham—and the Professor appeared to miss them too.

In the evening, the Dean entertained the Meeting at the Deanery; throwing open the Chapter Library to their inspection—a rich collection, in an interesting room;—the Chapel, formerly, of the Archbishop's Palace—an Early English building, with a remarkable east window of five lancet lights, not unlike the window at Skelton, and the Five Sisters in the north transept of the Cathedral.

There is a public dinner in the De Grey rooms this evening.—Earl Fitzwilliam, as President of the Meeting, taking the chair.—On Friday, we go to Aldborough, Ripon and Fountains Abbey; and on Saturday, to Rievaulx, Helmsley and Byland. Mr. Lawson entertains the members, on Friday, at Aldborough; and Lord Feversham, on Saturday, at Duncombe Park.—The meeting is more numerously attended than those at Canterbury and Winchester; and York, with her assizes in addition, is all gaiety and life.

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OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

Our readers are aware that a sum of 30,000*l.* has been granted for the erection of a building to contain the Museum of Economic Geology, the Mining Record Office, and offices for the Geological Survey of Great Britain; and that a site for the same was purchased more than six months ago. Many of them—who have had less experience of the slowness with which public bodies move than ourselves, and have, no doubt, assumed that a work of so much importance was rapidly progressing—will be surprised to learn that that site is yet vacant, save for the rubbish by which it is incumbered. As the matter is one of much importance, and a hint from without is of great efficacy in communicating motion to inert bodies, we are tempted to borrow some particulars which have been furnished to a morning paper by a correspondent,—and which put the case in a strong light. The Museum of Economic Geology and the Mining Record Office, now occupy Nos. 5 and 6, Craig's-court. The Geological Survey Office is also at the same place; but the constantly increasing accumulations have rendered it necessary to occupy apartments in Whitehall-yard, in Duke-street, and in the Deanery of Westminster. Thus, the officers and their assistants, pursuing inquiries which have one common end, are divided and impeded through want of convenient room. Connected with this establishment are Sir Henry De la Beche, Andrew Ramsay, Esq., Professor Oldham, Professor John Phillips, Professor Edward Forbes, Warrington W. Smyth, Esq., Dr. Hooker,—and, under them, many assistant geologists and others. At the Museum of Economic Geology are Richard Phillips, Esq., Dr. Lyon Playfair, and Robert Hunt, Esq. The objects of the Survey, now united with the Economic Museum, are to ascertain the geological structure of our island by actual survey, and the mineralogical character of the country;—to accumulate the largest possible collection of specimens;—to illustrate the useful application of geology and all the sciences related to it;—to exhibit in chronological series a history of the metallurgical arts and of textile manufactures;—to collect together illustrative specimens of the mineral and lithological wealth of the kingdom;—to illustrate the science of geology in the most comprehensive manner; and to exhibit models of mining machinery and of mines. Plans and sections of mines and statistical information are deposited in the Mining Record Office, and a valuable collection of railway cuttings geologically coloured. An extensive library, relating to all the branches of science and of history bearing on the objects of the establishment, is also in progress of formation. In the long-talked-of building in Piccadilly the public are to have free access to all these really valuable stores. A lecture-room, too, is designed, in which the officers of the institution are to deliver lectures at stated periods, to which the public will be admitted at the smallest possible charges. Surely it is to be regretted that the labours of such men as appear on the list of officers should be impeded by the delay of which we are complaining; and, remembering how few of the public can afford to purchase either the Maps or Memoirs, it is evidently desirable that no time should be lost in giving that means of acquiring valuable practical information which would be afforded by the extension of the establishment, and a better system of arrangement than is at present possible.—While on this subject why, we may ask, might not rooms be found for the Geological Society under the roof of the new building; enabling them to carry on their labours in connexion with the officers of the government establishment, and placing the resources of the Museum and Library at their disposal? Why should the government, which houses the Society already, rent two separate homes for geology—exaggerating, in this case that non-association of things that are like (of which we have so often complained as a waste of means) into the actual separation of things that are identical?

An inquiry of considerable interest and great practical value is now in progress, we may mention, in connexion with this Museum of Economic Geology,—in behalf of the Admiralty, in reference to the value of coals for the use of the steam navy. It is designed, not merely to ascertain, by chemical analysis, the constituents of the coals,—but, by an extensive series of comparative

experiments, to determine their heating powers and the most economical mode of effecting their combustion. With this object in view, we find steam-boilers are now being erected at the Engineering College, at Putney; and we have no doubt, from the well-known skill of Sir Henry De la Beche and Dr. Lyon Playfair, under whose direction the examination is to be made, that much information of great importance to manufacturers and engineers will be afforded,—in addition to the object for which the experiments have been instituted.

The ceremony of opening the building lately erected at Abbot's Langley, in Hertfordshire, for affording a retreat to aged and decayed members of the book trade, took place, as had been previously announced, on Tuesday last; and a list of subscriptions amounting to upwards of 800*l.* was announced on the occasion. Sir E. Lytton Bulwer Lytton was, as our readers know, the chairman of the day:—and on parts of that gentleman's speech we shall probably take an opportunity of offering some remarks, that have more than once suggested themselves to us as necessary to counteract a tone very injurious, as we think, to that literary cause which he, and others employing it, are, nevertheless, no doubt, desirous to maintain.

The Rev. C. Wordsworth, son of the late Master of Trinity College, Cambridge, and nephew of the poet, has been appointed Warden of the new Episcopal College at Perth:—and the *Globe* states that, immediately after the Rev. gentleman's nomination was made known to him, he sent the munificent donation of 5,000*l.* towards the funds of the institution.

A Government Bill has been printed to amend the act, 7 & 8 Victoria, cap. 73,—and give effect to the copyright treaty recently concluded between Her Majesty and the King of Prussia. The rate of duty is set forth in the schedule annexed to the Act. Books originally produced in the United Kingdom and republished in the country of export, are to be charged 2*l.* 10*s.* the cwt.—and works not originally produced in the United Kingdom 15*s.* the cwt. Prints and drawings (plain or coloured), 3*d.* each,—and bound or sewn 11*d.* the dozen.

From Paris, we learn that the Academy of Inscriptions and Belles Lettres has, by an all but unanimous vote, elected the Marquis de la Grange to the chair in its body vacated by the death of M. Eyries:—and in the same paragraph, we may state that the French Government has bestowed on three members of the Institute, MM. Flourens, Poinso, and Tropolong, the highest social distinction in the power of governments to bestow,—by elevating them to the dignity of Peers of France.

The French Geological Society has decided that its extraordinary sittings for this year shall take place at Alais, on the 14th of September and following days;—the situation of that town in one of the richest coal districts of France, and amongst rich veins of iron and lead ore, having furnished the reason for the selection.—We should mention, too, that M. de Mas-Latrie,—of whose proceedings under his scientific mission in the East we have, from time to time, presented our readers with some particulars,—has returned home, after visiting Syria, Balbec, Sidon, Tyre, Egypt, and Cyprus. He stayed some time in the last-named place; and procured there a number of original documents relative to the middle ages,—as well as several antique objects, which he has presented to the Bibliothèque du Roi.

It was only last week that we spoke of the infectious nature of generous sentiment,—in reference to the self-imposed taxation by which the Hungarian and Bohemian nobles have taken upon themselves a portion of the hereditary burdens of the poor. Our remark has, this week, another very striking illustration,—involving no less an example than that of a sovereign prince. It is the duty of journalists to leave no such instances unrecorded.—A letter from Coburg states that the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha has just presented to the Assembly of the States two bills, one of which declares that the property of himself and his family shall be no longer exempt from taxes and dues, but shall pay the same as other property. The second orders that three-fifths of the revenue of his private estates shall be set apart to pay the public debt; and that, when the debt shall be liquidated, one-fifth shall be for ever employed in re-

lieving his subjects from taxes and contributions to that amount.

We have seen privately a piece of mechanism, about to be exhibited to the public at the Egyptian Hall—the work of Professor Faber, of Vienna, and the result, as he states, of twenty-five years of labour and preparation. The name which he has given to this product of his ingenuity is the Euphonia; and the work, as that name implies, is another of those many combinations which have been attempted, by the anatomical and physiological study of the structures that contribute to the human voice, to attain to an imitation of that organ as regards both sound and articulation. It is in vain to apply the “*Cui bono?*” to a matter like this. It is quite true that mechanical figures, in heads and turbans, with their lungs in red baize and worked by machinery, are not in themselves utilities—the more particularly as their talking machinery requires the impulse of a real living and talking man, who might more conveniently have done the talking at first hand. As an example of inductive and mechanical skill, however, such an exhibition as this is well deserving of attention; and there is no difficulty, besides, in imagining a number of purposes to which the discovery of any artificial means for producing vocal articulation might be applied with valuable effect. It is, in any case, an old scientific problem; and anything that brings us nearer to its solution would have an interest, were it for that reason alone. We believe this invention of Professor Faber comes closer to that result than any previous “instrument made with hands.” The Professor himself, by an arrangement of bellows-pipes, pedal and keys, which he plays somewhat like the keys of a piano, prompts the discourse of his automaton; which certainly does enunciate both sounds and words,—though it is by no means to be proposed as a model of elocution. The pupil has to overcome a considerable degree of hesitation, and a great uncertainty of accent, before he can fairly be presented in the character of an orator. When we entered the room, we found him singing to a select society; and we believe any portion of the gratification which the latter experienced was not derived from the beauty of the voice. In fact, this is, like all similar attempts which have preceded it, only an approximation, though a nearer approximation, to the thing proposed. It requires all our sense of the ingenuity and perseverance which have been bestowed on the work to induce our assent to the proposition which calls the voice a human voice;—but we recommend it to notice as a remarkable result of contriving skill and scientific patience.

BRITISH INSTITUTION, PALL MALL.

The Gallery, with a SELECTION OF PORTRAITS OF EMINENT PERSONS, is NOW OPEN from Ten till Six—Admission, 1*s.*; Catalogue, 1*s.* WILLIAM BARNARD, Keeper.

Will Close on Saturday Next, the 1st of August.

The EXHIBITION of the SOCIETY of BRITISH ARTISTS, SUFFOLK-STREET, PALL-MALL EAST, is NOW OPEN. Daily from 9 a.m. till dusk.—Admission, 1*s.* EDWARD HASELLE, Sec. Exhibitors are requested to send for their names on TUESDAY the 4th, or WEDNESDAY the 5th of August.

MIDSUMMER HOLIDAYS.

DIORAMA, REGENT'S PARK.—REDUCED PRICE OF ADMITTANCE.—NOW OPEN, with a highly interesting exhibition, representing the CASTLE and TOWN of HEIDELBERG (formerly the residence of the Electors Palatine of the Rhine) under the various aspects of Winter and Summer. Mid-day and Evening; and the exterior view of the CATHEDRAL of NOTRE DAME at Paris, as seen at Sunset and by Moonlight, and which has been so universally admired. Both pictures are painted by the late Chevalier Kenoux. Open from 10 till 6. Admittance to view both Pictures—Saloon, 1*s.*; Stalls, 2*s.* as heretofore.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—A LECTURE, by DR. RYAN, on CHEMISTRY, at Halfpast 3 daily, and on the Evenings of Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 9 o'clock. PROF. BACHOFFEN'S LECTURES on NATURAL PHILOSOPHY, with brilliant experiments, daily. MACINTOSH'S REVOLVING ENGINE, COLEMAN'S PATENT LOCOMOTIVE ENGINE for ascending and descending Inclined Planes. FARRELL'S ARCHIMEDEAN RAILWAY, the ATMOSPHERIC RAILWAY, all in action. HALLET'S ATMOSPHERIC RAILWAY, all in action. THE OXY-HYDROGEN MICROSCOPE, exhibiting a fine collection of Living Objects. A beautiful Picture of the CHAPEL in the CONVENT of St. CATHERINE, near JERUSALEM, by Mr. Charles Smith, is one of the Series of DISSOLVING VIEWS just introduced.—Admission, 1*s.*; Schools, Half-price.

MEETING FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

TUES. Zoological Society, half-past 8.—Scientific Business.

FINE ARTS

Modern Painters. By a Graduate of Oxford. Vol. II.

LITERARY discussions, however keen-witted and vehement, we love: we detest literary squabbles, however smart the remarks and tart the rejoinders.

Had the author of this work invited us with ever such pert provocations down from the noble lists where our previous encounter took place, we should have left him unnoticed in his little cock-pit beneath. But while he has impugned, as was natural, our opinions upon his first volume, fewer unseemlinesses like those which often gave it a *rococo* character disfigure his second; we trust such flowers of Billingsgate will soon be rejected by his purer taste altogether. Though he sometimes out-does Termagant still, when he would tear *Salvator* to tatters, or *Claude* to very rags, his flippancies are now more of philippics. If the truths we told him were unpalatable, bitters help digestion: he appears to have derived benefit therefrom, else we should think further prescription for his case useless, any expectation of his resipiscence vain. Let our readers recollect it is the bitterest of all draughts to swallow one's own words, and they will give him high credit for the magnanimity which prompted the subjoined *peccavi* introductive of his second volume:—

"Although the hasty execution and controversial tone of the former portions of this essay have been subjects of frequent regret to the writer, yet the one was in some measure excusable in a work referred to a temporary end, and the other unavoidable, in one directed against particular opinions. Nor are either of any necessary detriment to its availability as a foundation for more careful and extended survey, in so far as its province was confined to the assertion of obvious and visible facts, the verification of which could in no degree be dependent either on the care with which they might be classed, or the temper in which they were regarded. Not so with respect to the investigation now before us, which being not of things outward, and sensibly demonstrable, but of the value and meaning of mental impressions, must be entered upon with a modesty and cautiousness proportioned to the difficulty of determining the likeness, or community of such impressions, as they are received by different men, and with seriousness proportioned to the importance of rightly regarding those faculties over which we have moral power, and, therefore, in relation to which we assuredly incur a moral responsibility. There is not the thing left to the choice of man to do or not to do, but there is some sort or degree of duty involved in his determination; and by how much the more, therefore, our subject becomes embarrassed by the cross influences of variously admitted passion, administered discipline, or encouraged affection, upon the minds of men, by so much the more it becomes matter of weight and import to observe by what laws we should be guided, and of what responsibilities regardful, in all that we admit, administer, or encourage. Nor indeed have I ever, even in the preceding sections, spoken with levity, though sometimes perhaps with rashness. I have never treated the subject as other than demanding heedful and serious examination, and taking high place among those which justify as they reward our utmost ardour and earnestness of pursuit."

A word or two on this apologetic preamble. We never excepted against our author's "controversial tone," but against the *tone* of that tone. He might controvert, or subvert, or convert, or pervert what or whom he pleased: he might put forth or pour forth all the strength or wrath of language he liked: we are ourselves worshippers of the god *Truth*, and wield our little airy sledge with the good-will of a genuine War-Smith, to the utter demolition of our antagonist if we may, anointing him for sacrifice with no oil of roses from our phial. It is neither Mr. Graduate's mill-hammer, nor his sulphuric acid we object to, but his brickbat and his kennel-water. That his Attic salt relishes yet of the culinary, take a few exemplifications: "the disgusting convulsions of the *Laocoon*" (p. 64), "the morbid and vulgar sentimentalism of *Correggio*" (p. 166), "the intolerable, inconceivable brutality of *Salvator*" (p. 168). Elsewhere *Domenichino's* angels are designated "studies of bare-legged children howling and kicking in volumes of smoke," (p. 212); *Guercino's* Hagar at the Brera is likened to "a servant of all-work turned away for stealing tea and sugar," (p. 124). Such tirades may be more or less true, or facetious, but their style of eloquence too much resembles a newspaper critic's for our taste. Indeed, were we not told our author was an Oxonian, we should conjecture him one of those clever young gentlemen called Reporters, who

step hitherward annually from Scottish crag and Irish bog to teach us *aesthetics* on the strength of their native genius, and a glance at the Spring Exhibitions. How, let us ask, does he reconcile it with that spirit of reverence which his moaning Wordsworthianism would inculcate upon students and amateurs, when they stand before the shrine of Art and the images of its sacro-sanct priesthood,—to burst forth into such blatant harangues against those above-named painters?—ay, to spit foul epithets and make mows at *Il Divino* himself? "The haystacks and vulgar trees behind the St. Cecilia," saith our reverent *Turnero-maniac* apropos of *Raffaël's* sublime, if not altogether immaculate, work! Our professor of pious veneration for genius, bawls out, "the corrupted *Raffaël*" in another place (p. 115). How does he reconcile such eruptions of idle wind, such levities and rashnesses (by no means put off as his preamble would have us believe), with the lecture he reads "this present age of ours... its mean and shallow love of jest and jeer, so that if there be in any good and lofty work, a flaw or failing, or undipped vulnerable part where sarcasm may stick or stay, it is caught at, and pointed at, and buzzed about, and fixed upon, and stung into, as a recent wound is by flies, and nothing is ever taken seriously nor as it was meant, but always, if it may be, turned the wrong way, and misunderstood; and while this is so, there is not, nor cannot be any hope of achievement of high things; men dare not open their hearts to us, if we are to broil them on a thorn-fire." Peradventure were men's hearts broiled on a fire they would care very little about whether it were made of thorns or satin-wood billets. But this point being left for those it may concern, has the lecturer of our present age himself exhibited no love of jest and jeer?—has he spat no sarcasm at an undipped vulnerable part of a lofty work, *v. g.* the St. Cecilia haystacks?—has he misunderstood, and moreover dis-natured, misrepresented, and travestied nothing in the works he has censured? Our quotations above will answer the question, and our notice of his first volume cited numerous others. We must add that extreme irreverence and indiscriminate abuse distinguish his own vein of criticism far beyond any we have ever met with, save and except the newspaper vein aforesaid, which does not, like his, pretend itself a seraphic hosanna superior to all mockeries, buffooneries, and farce. Could the foulest-mouthed Journal disembody against his idol, Mr. Turner, less respectful and reckless language than his own against certain ancient masters,—"On those works there are definite signs of evil mind, ill repressed, and then inability to avoid, and at last perpetual seeking for and feeding upon horror and ugliness, and filthiness of sin, as eminently in *Salvator* and *Caravaggio*" (p. 131)? He "fixes upon a flaw" of *Salvator's* Pitti Battle-piece, where the cry of a wretch whose hand is chopped off seems to rend the canvas and preaches the best sermon against War human organs ever uttered; but grant it horrible, indefensible if you will, what short-sightedness to see this blood-stain alone upon the picture! Our critic might just as well condemn the entire play of *Lear* because *Gloster's* eyes are plucked out, and the "vile jellies" trod under foot—a much more repulsive image, an incident of much greater "brutality" than *Savage Rosa* delineated. And the *Shakespearean* horror was to be acted, performed (in appearance) before us, brought home to our business and bosoms, not painted and left to be fancied possible. We would neither whitewash *Salvator*, nor *Caravaggio*, nor even *Raffaël Sanzio*; is this any reason we should begrime them? At least should a professor and preacher-up of the reverential system do such an inconsistent deed? That poet who gave him the key note to his doctrine sustains it better, uttering it as a heartfelt truth, and being no echoer of it for fictitious purposes: he never lacks the dust beneath some mountain throne or rich-carpeted footstool of Nature, and then lolls the tongue out when he crosses her ordinary walks, calling the ragged heath and the gullied moor a 'Goose-Green' and a 'Crack-skull-'

* We must quote the critique itself—an exquisite *morcaux*:—"Brutal ferocity and butchered agony, of which the lowest and least palliated examples are those battles of *Salvator Rosa*, which none but a man base-born and thief-bred could have dwelt upon for an instant without sickening, of which I will only name that example in the Pitti palace," &c., p. 122.

Common! Shall we say that these abrupt transitions from prostrate adulation to contemptuous abuse are symptoms of the true servile spirit: slaves ever make the worst tyrants. Our author must be pronounced quite a *Zimri* in criticism.—

So over-violent or over-civil,
That every man with him is god or devil!

Such spasmodic flittings between extreme and extreme constitute the *fine enthusiasm* of our days. Its easiness recommends it: every young lady, or lady-souled young gentleman, can "adore" *Carlo Dolce* and "hate" *Rubens*! All we would request of the Oxford enthusiast compresses itself into a nut-shell. First, to spare his seraphical discourses about the "holiness" and the loveliness of a reverent spirit, until he has imbibed its real essence himself; as otherwise they will resemble those meeting-house homilies preached through the nose, while the lips mutter hatred, malice, and uncharitableness. Secondly, if unable thus to restrain himself, at any rate, when he must attack an Ancient Master or modern admirer of the same, let him muzzle the vixen spirit within him, which too often renders him rabid. Be it understood, we ask no *gentle* writing; we deprecate the scented paper and blue ink style; in argumentative discussions we condemn this and the scurrilous equally. But it ill becomes a writer upon *Fine Art* to indulge a species of eloquence that suggests by its coarse epithets an image of two red arms a-kinbo, and by its best hits the slap of a fish-wife's favourite weapon. Enough, we trust, respecting controversial tone: Volume III. (announced) will perhaps make further amendment therein.

Respecting "rashness," we despair altogether. Our Graduate, alas! seems a very Hotspur, beyond self and all extrinsic control. Heela's cap of snow would hardly cool his brain to a proper temperature. He begins his book, as we saw, with a contrite avowal of over-hastiness, and he ends it with a recantation of his former creed about Mr. Turner's infallible paintership:—yet from first paragraph almost to last he plunges headlong through a new series of frying-pans and fires, like some salamandrine creature that revelled amidst the rapids of Phlegathon, down which it tossed itself one after another. Two or three samples may serve for the present. Sometimes his rashness takes the form of monstrous assertion point-blank against matter-of-fact:—"the sun itself at noonday is *effectless upon the feelings*" (p. 38); he will next assert, we suppose, that the sun does not shine at noonday at all!—"No face can be ideal which is not a portrait" (p. 114).—"The Greek could not conceive a spirit" (p. 213). Sometimes the form of cool, bold paradox suiteth his froward spirit best: "We should not only love all creatures well," &c. (p. 95). What, all?—take *crocodiles* to our affections, dont upon *scorpions*, *rats*, *rattlesnakes*, *toads*, *dog-fishes*, *pole-cats*, become enamoured of *pigs*, *baboons*, *vampires*, and sigh forth heartfelt raptures about those amiable, amicable little animals, *bugs*, and other *body vermin* still more endearing? Inscrutable as we are, we could better contrive to love Mr. Oxford Graduate's maggots of the brain!—Hyperbolism is a third form into which he often casts his rashnesses: "I would not surrender, in an architectural point of view... one Romanesque façade, with its porphyry mosaic of indefinable monsters, nor one *Gothic moulding* of rigid saints and grinning goblins, for ten *Parthenons*" (p. 197). Again: "Status above the Elgin standard... I think them *always disagreeable*" (p. 199). The grand statues of *Castor* and *Pollux* on *Monte Cavallo* *disagreeable*? Perhaps we should rather ascribe these latter instances to narrow-minded and bigotted taste; but still another form of extravagance wherein our rhapsodist deligheth is the effusion of freakish ratiocinations, mad-headed gravities we must call them from their elaborate capriciousness. Mark how he reasoneth himself up to the most fantastical conclusions: "The functions and the fates of animals are distributed to them, with a variety which exhibits to us the dignity and results of almost every passion and kind of conduct; some filthy and slothful, pining and unhappy; some rapacious, restless and cruel; some ever earnest and laborious, and I think *unhappy* in their *endless labour*, creatures, like the bee, that heap up riches and cannot tell who will gather them" (p. 91). The unhappy bee!—

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Perhaps she sings as little as she whimpers while accumulating riches which she cannot secure in the Three per Cents, or entail by law upon some beloved drone and his heirs for ever; but Milton's conclusion makes no pretence to be logical, like its opposite. Profound comparative analysis instituted between men and lower creatures begets soon afterwards (p. 122) another sage and syllogistic crocheted: "Of vanity there is intellectual cause, so that when seen in a brute it is pleasant, and a sign of good wit." Query: the wit of a peacock? the good wit of a gander, vain of having stretched his neck to drive off a traveller who had passed him unheeding? Such are a few of the almost incredible hallucinations this strange volume presents; it contains numberless others unclassifiable altogether, or under heads distinct from any forms of rashness above-mentioned.

Deficient foresight, however, is by no means the sole cause of our author's temerarious assertions: deficient side-sights is a second source of them—he can see collateral facts little better than those which face him, wanting the power that modifies or neutralizes foolishly theorems through a comprehensive grasp of all data upon either hand. Both defects united produce a blind-Bayardism whose capricious amuse and amaze us beyond description. Thus, at page 20, he says, "the command being not, thou shalt obey, but thou shalt love the Lord thy God." Just as if his readers never read the Lord's Prayer!—"Thy will be done,"—a command, instead of from the intermediate mouth of Moses, direct from Christ's own lips—a manifest command, though supplicatively put, to obey the Father. And this obedience, too, snuffed at by our Semphral Doctor, who goes into such flights and ecstasies about reverential conduct! At page 24, Sir Oracle tells us "we can perceive beauty in everything of God's doing," yet tells us afterwards to "note the disagreeableness" in flat-fish, which have the eyes on one side of the head (p. 67): are then the flat-fishes' disagreeable eyes not God's doing? Again, "if we see a leaf withered, or shrunk, or worm-eaten, we say it is ugly" (p. 87); is said disfigured leaf, is its very disfigurement, not an act of the omnipresent Creative-Destroyer? But further; will our eloquent Oxonian with his luxurious pencil describe to us the beauties, the inimitable graces, the unadorned charms, of that most "replenished sweet work of nature," an overgrown, farm-yard Mother Sow,—yen, the beauties of all and each her particular features from snout to tail, for all are Heaven's own handiwork? We cannot help quoting another of these oracles, they appear such old psychological phenomena: "Throughout the whole of the organic creation every being in a perfect state exhibits certain appearances or evidences of happiness;" and this happiness "invariably prompts us, from the joy we have in it, to look upon those as most lovely which are most happy." Their comparative beauty is then illustrated by the "fiend-hunted swine" of Gennesareth Lake, and "the dove returning to the ark of its rest." So when the swine were not fiend-hunted, but sweltered deliciously amidst their stercoraceous store, they were "lovely"; and when Noah's miserable little missive could not find rest for the sole of her foot, she lost, *pro tempore*, her beauty! Likewise the "unhappy bee" above mentioned is less beautiful than the idle drone who revels upon treasures he never troubled himself to provide! If our author repudiate the swine and dove illustration as his in the way we have applied it, let it be ours—it suffices still. And if he speak of generic swine and doves, not particular, how can he or any one tell which are the happier, pigs or pigeons, though the former nestle amidst dung-hill straw and the latter among verdant foliage? Does not the "perfect state" of piggishness exhibit certain appearances of bliss quite equal to that of Venus's own pet bird—

Φαῖνεται ἀγριὸν τι?

And are the two animals therefore equally lovely? But his greatest-happiness principle includes the secret why rose-bushes and other plants are some lovelier, some uglier, according to their apparent "healthy vital energy" (p. 87). Is a sere, yellow, or many-tinted autumn bough, the symbol of decay, less beautiful than a branch ever so fresh and green? Is not each perfect after its kind?—is it not the very shallowest philosophisation to restrict "perfect organic

state" within the one condition of vital health and completeness? We surmise that all our author's elaborate disquisitions upon this matter amount to a most simple truth much mystified—cheerfulness of look has its charm. His volume abounds with trivialities, swollen, by help of verbose announcement and analysis, into prodigious novelties. However, self-contradictions make him sure, like the illustrative quadruped just noticed, to cut his own throat as he swims down the flood of his eloquence.

And still—and still—notwithstanding what we have said, and left unsaid, about the faults and follies committed almost every page, almost every paragraph—the book before us deserves perusal, deserves praise. Never did we see such acuteness and confusedness of mind—such power and impotence—such trains of error and of true deduction—such pure taste and perverted judgment—such high and low feeling for Art—we must add, such an elevated and vulgarian spirit of criticism—evinced in any treatise pretending to legislate upon *Æsthetics*. Mr. Turner's *quondam* idolator will even yet, we have no doubt, take it as a high compliment (whatever the world may do), when we tell him, his writings greatly resemble the paintings of his god-pictorial; they are full of Turnerisms turned into words—beauties, garish brilliancies, incomprehensibilities and absurdities, all mingled together—pictures of thought which Chaos would love to contemplate, and could not more confuse; but which Splendour would love to rub her fleecy skirts against, for the sake of the lustrous colours,—yen, Imagination love to glance at, for the rays of light they dart forth from the darkest points, with the vividness of sparks from coal-black eyes. Here, a sun-stroke blinds; here, a sun-burst illumines; here, a monstrosity raises your gorge, here it tickles your midriff; here, a sublime conception lifts you off your feet, and here, again, some bombast circumstance tells you how close in what you peruse is the sublime to the ridiculous. Iris has dipped the whole woolf to be sure, but this part when she was sober, this when fuddled, this when drunk; nevertheless, when intoxicated, it is by *nectar*—or, if not by this, by downright "fire-water," vitriolized gin, and then, when the goddess becomes a perfect Doll Tearsheet, streels her purpled scarf through every yellow and green and blood-stained puddle she passes—twists it round her heated brain as half night-cap half turban, and flirts its bedraggled tails at the very deified of mankind, careless whether she hit Jupiter himself! This perpetual alternation between our author's hard-headed and his hare-brained discussions—his sound reasonings and rhodomontades—reminds us always of the man who jumped into the quickest hedge and thus scratched his eyes both out and in again, *per saltum*. One while so sagacious, he appears the Seven Wise Men of Greece consolidated; another while so short-sighted, he appears the Seven Wise Men of Gotham incorporated. Now we think he may be a veritable Oxford Graduate, now we feel assured he must be a Graduate of Laputa! Many persons would allege that throughout the whole book his wits were evidently wandering: no! woolgathering they sometimes were indeed, yet even then it was often for the Golden Fleece. Pretty similar things criticism might perhaps say of his idol's later productions; but he should take care, like Mallord Turner, to have done great deeds before he goes moonstruck altogether.

In conclusion, let us recommend to those of our readers who love a little intellectual agitation, this very perturbative volume. Its bewildered and bewildering eloquence is at worst like a mountain-squall upon a stagnant lake, which though it tosses up weeds from the surface and slime from the bottom, gives insight into the depths, and causes a multitudinous sparkle over the waves beneath its changeful wing. Mind stagnates no less than mountain-lakes, and a breeze beneficially rouses and refreshes it, however little qualified to raise its permanent level—the deep springs must do that! We have not ourselves either leisure or space for doubling after our march-hare enthusiast in his course through the field of Fine-Art metaphysics. His æsthetical diatribes, as full of divisions and subdivisions as the Archbishop of Grenada's homilies, quite deter us; but this much we will state to excuse the erratic theorist—that if "Beauty" has often led her present pursuer astray, she has done so bytimes through agreeable mazes. Now albeit we may not, like sweet William, "sigh

farewell," our long critique proves we part with Mr. Oxford Graduate unwillingly.

NEW PRINTS.

Heidelberg. Engraved by T. A. Prior.—This engraving, executed in the "line" manner, is a translation into black and white of one of those gorgeous combinations of sunshine and storm which Mr. Turner has brought with such wonderful effect over the heads of olden cities; lighting up the rugged woody mountain, the wide-spanning bridge, and the towering edifices, with a flood of light,—chequered with a due quantum of murky shadow, the herald of the coming tempest. All this has been imitated by the graver of Mr. Prior—whose name is new to us—with much skill. The distant portions of the landscape bear out admirably, in the engraving, the peculiar reputation of the author of the painting; and we cannot bestow on the effects of Mr. Prior's burin a higher commendation. Every one conversant with Art is aware of the difficulty that must be presented to an engraver who undertakes the task of rendering the works of this remarkable landscape painter; and, therefore, due consideration must be entertained towards the efforts of the former, even where they are not unreservedly successful. The stormy effect on the left hand of this work strikes us as being somewhat smutty:—but the style throughout, with this exception, is worthy of great praise, and suggests a favourable judgment respecting the future success of the engraver. The working of the bridge, indeed, with its shadows and reflections, exhibits peculiar skill;—and the manner of the original has received a very faithful interpretation.

Major-General Sir H. G. Wakelyn Smith, Bart. G.C.B. &c.—A lithograph, well executed, representing a half-length of this distinguished general. It is accompanied by a quotation from the speech of Sir R. Peel, recounting the victories in which his valour and judgment have been signalized. The face is manly, and full of intelligence—an appropriate commentary on the written evidence of his character, and, therefore, a valid testimony to the resemblance.

Embossed Tableaux.—We have received, from Messrs. Dobbs & Co., a number of these tableaux, in addition to those which we formerly noticed. Some of them are very ingenious; but as we have already expressed our opinion on the special objects of the undertaking, we need not, on the present occasion, do more than refer back to it.

Toda Mund and Todas Ootacamund. By Capt. Peacocke, H.P. unattached.—This is a specimen of a series of seventeen lithographs, to be issued to subscribers, representing the scenery of the Neilgherry and Koonnah Ranges, Western Ghats, Madras. We cannot say much for the *Art* here exhibited. As an example of "views" which will appeal chiefly to the recollection of visitors to the scenes depicted,—to whom even the most fleeting reminiscences would, no doubt, be pleasing,—there may be remarked an evident veracity of detail which will not be unacceptable. Contributions by officers, in various parts of the globe, might be made very important adjuncts to our stock of acquaintance with men and things; but to that end, *truth*, and a tolerable acquaintance with the general principles of Art, are indispensable. The less, therefore, that there is of "cooking-up," as it is termed, of rough sketches, the better. In the present instance, there is certainly no fault to find in that respect. As the work proceeds, it will obtain a due revision from us.

ART LEGISLATION.

It is not often that the reports of the Parliamentary proceedings afford extracts for this department of our journal. The subjoined notes, however, will be interesting as a register of the annual glance which the House of Commons bestows upon Art.

The sum of 5,381*l.* was voted to defray the expenses of the Schools of Design in London and the provinces.

In answer to an observation from Mr. EWART, Mr. PARKER promised shortly to lay the report of the committee respecting these schools on the table of the House.

The following votes were also agreed to:—300*l.* for the Royal Irish Academy; 300*l.* for the Royal Hibernian Academy; and, lastly, 3,090*l.* for the National Gallery.

Mr. BORTHWICK said that 650*l.* of this vote was for a pic-

ture alleged now to be by a pupil of Hans Holbein. That picture, he believed, had been purchased as an original Holbein, but had since been discovered to be a mere counterfeit. Whoever was to blame for the purchase, whether the right hon. member for Tamworth, or anybody else, he thought that the public should not be made to pay for a daub which Holbein would be ashamed of.

Col. SIMMONS had great confidence in the artistic judgment of the right hon. member for Tamworth, and therefore should not be hasty in condemning the picture,—the more especially as the right hon. baronet, who it appeared was implicated, was not then in the house. He thought, however, that some attention should be paid to the defects in the Gallery itself. He feared that there was no cure for it, but to pull it down altogether. Then there were the celebrated water-works—which were only useful as a receptacle for dead dogs and cats. He trusted that some attempt would be made to make the Gallery and its appendages worthy of the purpose intended.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER admitted that a deception had been practiced on the trustees, but submitted that such things would sometimes happen, notwithstanding all the precautions that could be taken.

Sir J. GRAHAM said it might be a very pleasant and a very safe pastime for the hon. member for Evesham to attack the right hon. member for Tamworth in his absence. He should recollect, however, that his right hon. friend, although a trustee of the National Gallery, had had for the last four years other and very important duties to perform.

It is upon these money-votes that the serious attention of Parliament to affairs of Art becomes aroused; and, despite the ill-based objections that are sometimes brought forward, important deductions will often force themselves impressively on the mind of the public,—and, it is to be hoped, not less so on that of the honourable members. If Sir James Graham's retort formed a not inappropriate shield for the late Premier,—whose well-known taste for Art is backed by a noble generosity to artists,—it cannot but be remarked that the same system which is adopted in reference to all other public matters of business does not obtain in regard to Art. The mass of the nation are lulled by the sound of the eminent names paraded as official managers of certain establishments; but when the time of responsibility arrives, the burden is slipped upon inferior shoulders. This is not as it should be; and, yet, it would appear to be the rule, and not the exception, in the present arrangements of almost all artistic establishments. Everything tends to show that the connexion between such great establishments and the ruling powers of the kingdom will only be thoroughly efficient when it is maintained by a minister strictly charged with such and similar duties,—imbued with an enthusiasm calculated to urge on the progress of the institutions committed to his charge, and, at the same time, officially responsible for the administration of their affairs.

The vote on the School of Design, which we mark with satisfaction, might, though uncommenced on in the House, offer ground for similar reflections. We reserve, however, such remarks as the last year's proceedings may call forth until the production of the expected "Report";—merely observing that, judging from personal inspection and from hearsay, the arrangements of the present Director have been conceived with judgment and carried out with assiduity.

Whilst alluding to these topics, and culling from the newspapers their casual contributions, we cannot refrain from an allusion to Lord Morpeth's impressive speech to the manufacturers of Yorkshire. "I rejoice," said the noble Lord, "to think that many of the adults, the operatives, and the rising youth of this busy population, have already devoted much of their scanty leisure to form mutual improvement and guardian societies, and have established Mechanics' Institutions and Schools of Design,—which cannot be too much applauded nor too much encouraged. I hope they who have embarked in such elevating and ennobling pursuits, will follow them with fresh ardour and fresh vigour; and that every encouragement will be given by the State to second their endeavours to fan the general flame. I feel that now, above all others, is the time for those who are intrusted with the responsibility of the government to do everything in their power to open a way for all that can improve the condition and elevate the character of our people. No nobler task can be set before them." It is cheering to find, with his earnest aspirations for the solid welfare attendant on the spread of education, so eminent a statesman recognizing as among the means the quiet influences of Art. We are not of those who would calculate the good effects of the Schools of Design by the mere absolute re-

sponse which they may afford to the commercial calls upon the ingenuity of their pupils. Such results are, indeed, not easily calculable; because each student carries with him powers to execute, which practical experience in other technical matters must ripen and direct. There is one good result, however, which is immediately appreciable; because nothing is more universally allowed among civilized communities than the power of Art to "improve the condition and elevate the character of a people:—"we can, therefore, estimate the mental and moral culture that must ensue from directing the attention of the class of mechanics towards studies which, in enabling them to improve their taste and direct with more skill their powers of handicraft, urge them to an exalting contemplation of the beauties of Nature around them. The hand that works out its livelihood by the pattern and the design must be guided by a mind that shall look with increased delight upon the glorious hues of the heavens and the graceful ever-varied forms of vegetation. Gifted with the exhilarating power of self-support by the recombinations of fancies thus profusely suggested by Nature, there is opened to him at once a career of usefulness and independence. To mix up such speculations with prospects of a nation's good, does not fall to the share of ordinary political sagacity. Politics and poetry are too rarely combined; and it has been even said that, in the present age, the predominance of the one is incompatible with the very existence of the other. We have often, in our columns, contested this mistaken notion; and argued that the material conquests of the present day, opening, as they do, vast vistas of mental and bodily welfare, present the noblest theme for the truly poetical imagination. For evidence of this, the speech in question may be referred to; and we may add, that it furnishes testimony equally satisfactory to the national value of one of the votes which prefaced these remarks.

FINE ART GOSSIP.—The correspondence which has passed with the Commissioners of Woods and Forests on the subject of the Wellington group is now before the public,—having been produced to Parliament, on the motion of Sir Robert Inglis; and the world may now judge, on better evidence than report, of that obstinate determination with which the appeals of taste and reason have been rejected in this matter. That dogged and selfish spirit of closet management which writes the name of jobbery on so many of our public monuments, has rarely been more conspicuously displayed than on this occasion; and in view of the case made, by this correspondence, against so glaring an abuse of responsibility, we cannot but hope that the Subscribers will yet offer such a remonstrance as may compel those who have the disposition of their money to listen to the advice given them from every competent quarter. The case presented by these letters—thirty-one in number—is thus summed up by a contemporary, in as concise a manner as we can state it; and no arguments, it will be seen, can be as strong as the statement itself. In August, 1838, the sanction of the Treasury Board was given to the erection of the equestrian statue on the Green-park arch, Hyde-park-corner. Mr. Burton, the architect of the arch, strenuously opposed the placing of the statue thereon; and a good deal of correspondence resulted on the subject. He estimated the additional work necessary for the purpose at 2,000*l.*,—and represented that the arch was not a proper place for the group. It would be seen, he said, that the monument was not the design of the artist of the arch,—and that proportion and unity of design, so important to a work of Art, would be wanting. The building, he stated, was small as a triumphal arch,—whilst the statue was one of the largest in the world. Nevertheless, the Duke of Rutland, as chairman of the committee, applied to the Earl of Lincoln, when he was Chief Commissioner of the Woods and Forests,—and subsequently to Viscount Canning, when he was at the head of the same department,—for a fulfilment of the promise to place the equestrian statue on the arch. Communications passed between them, and efforts were made to induce the committee to forego "the unfortunate site." The Duke still, however, pressed the Government to allow the statue to be placed on the

arch,—and permission was, accordingly, given for the place to be prepared for its reception. In May last, Viscount Canning (after such permission was given) again interfered to prevent, if possible, the erection of the statue on the arch,—offering other sites and undertaking to apply to Parliament to pay the difference in the expense:—but the Duke of Rutland, in reply, declined a renewal of the discussion,—which, he said, had been finally settled.—There is now, therefore, little hope left,—save, as we have hinted, in some demonstration on the part of the Subscribers.

From Paris, we hear that a statue, representing Valentine of Milan, has been placed on one of the pedestals in the Garden of the Luxembourg; all the mutilated statues in which are being gradually replaced by new ones,—that the statue of *Parmentier*, for the town of Montdidier, has been successfully cast in bronze:—and that the demolition has commenced of the famous elephant of the Bastille.

On the suggestion of the Committee of Historical Monuments, the Minister of the Interior has caused a medal to be struck, for a recompense to those who have lent to his administration valuable assistance in the preservation of the national monuments.

From Vienna, we learn that the Emperor has nominated the Archduke John—author of some works on the military sciences, which have a great reputation,—president of the new Imperial and Royal Academy of Sciences,—which he has recently created in that capital.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—'I Puritani,' which was given for M. Perrot's benefit on Thursday evening, enabled this rapidly rising artist still further to show the progress he has recently made. He sang the last act in his loveliest voice, and with admirable expression; but he is too fond of attempting a *faç simile* of Rubini's high *falsetto* notes;—in this, needlessly subjecting himself to the charge of imitation. Madame Grisi, too, was in brilliant voice. As a whole performance, however, we could not but remember the "old times" of the Opera. The orchestra has descended to the uncertainty and roughness of a second-rate band. After the opera came a *décoré*, entitled, 'Le Jugement de Paris'; in which Mlles. Taglioni, Cerito, and Grisi personified the candidates for the Golden Apple. Rarely has a production more essentially "unphilosophical" been seen;—beginning with a prelude *prima* and quaint enough to belong to the days when Mlle. de Sévigné danced with "the greatest king in the world,"—and ending with a *galoppe* [!] introducing all manner of secondary divinities,—permitting Paris (St. Léon) and Mercury (Perrot) to vie with the goddesses in their idyllic contest for the fruit of Discord,—and, lastly, allowing the curtain to fall without the prize being adjudged. Waiving philosophy, however: though somewhat encumbered with accessory young ladies, and too *décousu* in its groupings, this is a brilliant *pas de cinq*. All the parties distinguished themselves. But we know where the prize should have fallen. Taglioni is grown matronly in her prosperity—a stout *Sylphide* (it seems like a profanation to speak of it); while Cerito never was so daring in her flights or so firm in her alighting. Nevertheless, while her two rivals were welcomed with bouquets, Taglioni carried off the bouquet! Her salutation to the audience was worth all their ambitious endeavours; and, just ere the strife came to its close, she broke out into a *variation* of such easy and graceful brilliancy as must have convinced all who have studied her art that, though she be past her prime, her waning is better than her successors' heyday. In the management of her arms alone she is a hundred paces before her competitors,—a thousand (to be moderate) in her appreciation of grace and elegance. If she bequeath her wings and her slippers to any one, we think it will be to Mlle. Carlotta Grisi. 'L'Ajo nel Imbarazzo,'—one of Donizetti's earlier works, and, what is better, a comic opera,—is to be played on Thursday evening next, for Sig. Mario's benefit.—Really, the Subscribers are treated with *extra* shabbiness in this, their dearest, season! Let them not be dazzled by a few nights of showy dancing,—but bear it in mind next spring.

DRURY L. the Belgian week, at the —when, owing the important the lot of M. This gentleman highest possible What may kni- nities, we kn and highly-f distinguished ears" by the M. Boulo's p mental, rather essentially a second evening clever artist i Académie, at from that est good for the seeking for fir ap always app Grand French sufficient, is h animated, is ledge of the s prepossessing, nence to ever some curiosity ambition in su or Tamburini good word for Saint Bris.—C "Huguenots" have "assisted Another pro Company was Julien being which seems fectly prepared laborious of the Mlle. Charlo entire satisfact is not powerl w entirely pos neet in her ap throughout the third act—as to cine, we are n Mlle. Charlo power of avail the excellent ment,—which company, that ber or his doubt studied. This rate singer am naps, excepted available than The Germans line, though in think, was "Ro Tuesday. Its It was new to temer in the sec no wonder,—a zotic scales gi for its omission than Madame lighter operas "Le Châlet," comic operas, gaily improb also Etienne's Madame Labor orchestra, M. artists on his Dorus not forg

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DRURY LANE.—French Operas.—The strength of the Belgian Opera company was shown yesterday week, at the second performance of 'Les Huguenots,'—when, owing to the indisposition of M. Laborde, the important and difficult part of *Sir Raoul* fell to the lot of M. Boulo, originally cast for *Bois-Rose*. This gentleman sustained it so well as to give us the highest possible opinion of his accomplishments. What may have been his training and opportunities, we know not; but he is an elegant, careful, and highly-finished singer,—an Artist, in short, as distinguished from the crude voices that "fret our ears" by the dozen on the Italian and German stage. M. Boulo's powers, however, point the way to sentimental, rather than to tragical, opera,—his voice being essentially a *light one*. The part of *Nevers*, on the second evening, was taken by M. Massol. This very clever artist is an old acquaintance of ours, from the *Académie*, at Paris;—and seems, by his departure from that establishment, to have rated himself as too good for the range of parts there allotted to him, seeking for first honours as a baritone. Now, M. Massol always appeared to us precisely one of those skillful personages whom it is the peculiar tendency of Grand French Opera to generate. His voice, though sufficient, is hard;—his singing, though careful and animated, is rather dramatic than vocal;—his knowledge of the stage is complete,—his appearance most prepossessing. As *Nevers*, he gave life and prominence to every passage of the part. We wait with some curiosity to see how far he can satisfy his own ambition in such characters as *Buriolet*, or *Ronconi*, or *Tamburini* would affect.—M. Barille deserves a good word for the effect he gave to the part of *M. de Saint Bris*.—On the whole, we have never heard the 'Huguenots' so evenly given out of Paris,—nay, we have "assisted" at a much worse execution of it there.

Another proof of the completeness of the Belgian Company was given on Tuesday,—when, on Mdlle. Julien being seized with the epidemic hoarseness which seems going the round of the corps, a perfectly prepared *Alice*, for 'Robert le Diable,' the more laborious of the two female parts, presented herself in Mdlle. Charton. (She has since sung the part of the *Princess Isabella*, for Madame Laborde.) She gave entire satisfaction to the audience. Though her voice is not powerful, nor always in just tune, she was so entirely possessed of the part—so innocently earnest in her appearance and action—so steady even throughout the difficult unaccompanied trio in the third act—as to deserve great praise. As in M. Boulo's case, we are mistaken if this chance does not raise Mdlle. Charton a step in her profession: but her power of availing herself of it arises, in part, from the excellent system of French operatic management,—which demands, for the completeness of a company, that each of the principal singers shall have her or his double; and that every part shall be understudied. This Brussels troop numbers not one first-rate singer among its corps (Madame Laborde, perhaps, excepted); but, for the reason given, is more available than any Italian Company we recollect. The Germans carry out the same habits of discipline, though in a more slovenly fashion. Never, we think, was 'Robert' so well relished in England as on Tuesday. Its hero is one of M. Laborde's best parts. It was new to us to hear the duet for *soprano* and *tenor* in the second act, which is usually omitted; and no wonder,—since the sequence of ascending chromatic scales given to the female voice is reason good for its omission by any vocalist less firm and certain than Madame Laborde. The house was full. Of lighter operas the Brussels Company have given 'Le Châlet,'—that most vulgarly gay of all French comic operas, 'Le Postillon,' and that most elegantly improbable of intrigue stories, 'Les Diamans,' also Etienne's 'Le Rossignol,'—chiefly to exhibit Madame Laborde in dialogue with the flutist in the orchestra, M. de Mours,—who is one of the finest artists on his instrument we have met with.—M. Dumas not forgotten.

HAYMARKET.—A very few words will suffice to record the appearance of Madame Thillon in 'The Wonderful Water-Cure,'—a version (omissions and commissions excepted) of 'L'Eau Miraculeuse,' in which the Lady made, at the *Théâtre de la Renaissance*, that reputation which led to her promotion to the *Opéra Comique*. It is a

certain monotony in Madame Thillon's graces which has led to the present fickleness among her French subjects, as little warranted as their former high enthusiasm had been.—To the pretty music of M. Grisar there is no doing justice when it is given at a theatre so in-opera-tive as the Haymarket; since we cannot consent to count 'Guy Mannering,' nor 'The Bee and the Orange Tree,' as musical dramas, nor to credit any artist in Mr. Webster's company (Miss P. Horton excepted, who ought to have been by this time the first *contralto* on our stage, now that Mrs. Shaw has left it), with powers for more than a ballad in a burlesque. The town, however, seems better contented than we are.

Last Thursday, "a lady"—as the bills announced her, but whose name, we understand, is Miss Williams,—made her *début* in the character of the *Widow Belmour*, in the comedy of 'The Way to Keep Him.' It is difficult, on first nights, to decide the merits of the new candidate. Considerable experience of a performer is required before a critic can arrive at a perfectly satisfactory judgment. This difficulty was felt the more strongly on the present occasion, from the extreme nervousness of the *débutante*,—a circumstance which rendered her articulation in rapid passages somewhat indistinct. Her voice is, on the whole, good; but she is deficient, we suspect, in elocutionary teaching. This, the first requisite towards success in public speaking and on the stage, is, strange to say, almost uniformly neglected. How many professional persons are there who might have held in the theatre a position of respectability—now denied them—had they but undergone preparatory training! But till the much-needed academical institution shall be provided for that purpose, all must be left to chance in the English theatre. With previous education, much might be expected from the lady in question. Her face and person are remarkably well fitted for gay and fashionable comedy. She is tall of stature, lively in action, and voluble in discourse. Each of these qualifications she was, however, somewhat too solicitous to display; and the consequent excess induced a doubt of her capacity and judgment—taste being naturally proportionate with talent. Such a character as the *Widow Belmour* requires as much refinement as vivacity; the slightest violence makes it vulgar. Difficult, no doubt, it is to preserve the proprieties of polished society with the spontaneities of individual temperament; yet the compromise must be effected by the actress who would distinguish herself in the walk in which Miss Williams has made her first appearance in London. From her general stage-tact and knowledge, it cannot be doubted that the *débutante* is already familiar with the technicalities and business of the boards. The perception of this prevents us from attributing her deficiencies to inexperience,—and we are disposed to ascribe them rather to exaggerated manner. We shall be happy to find ourselves mistaken on this point. It only remains to add, that the audience awarded their approbation; and that the lady, after the performance, received the usual honours attendant on success.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—French Plays.—Mdlle. Rachel's performances, during the seven days which have passed since our report, have been *Chimène*, in 'The Cid,'—generally agreed to be one of the least satisfactory of her characters; *Ermione*, in 'Andromaque' [No. 707],—the part in which she first appeared here, six years since, and in which she has won her first laurels; and *Phèdre*, repeated "by Royal desire."—M. Latour's 'Virginie' was to be given last night; and M. Soumet's 'Jeanne d'Arc' is promised for next week.

The recent death of M. Logier, aged 65, at his residence near Dublin, recalls to us a time of musical "agitation," which, with its results, we will venture to assert, has already almost passed out of memory. Thirty years hence, an editorial note will be required in Lady Morgan's 'Florence Macarthy,' to explain what manner of thing was the *Chiroplast*, for which the two Miss Crawleys cried when at Castle Dunore. M. Logier was born at Hesse-Cassel, in 1780; and became early a clever, rather than a profound, musician. He came to England about 1815; and his system of class-teaching for the pianoforte made so much noise, that a commission of musicians was appointed to examine it. As a system, M. Logier's always

seemed to us to contain a good idea or two,—wrested out of shape, and rendered fruitless, by the broad and open quackery with which they were administered. To keep time has always been eminently difficult to the English; and the Logierian system provided for this. But nothing could be more inefficient than its much vaunted theoretical instruction; and this is shown in the fact, that, whereas every scholar who learned it was warranted perfect in thorough-bass—the amateurs, taught thirty years ago, make up, so far as it is possible to judge, a poorer and less scientifically accomplished body than either their parents or their successors. And the great truth seems to have been strangely overlooked, that, inasmuch as the pianoforte is not calculated to be used in masses, or played unisonally,—to teach it in masses, except in so far as the commonest rudiments of music are concerned, must be a mistake, as precluding the possibility of cultivating style, taste, or expression. In its day, however,—from the year 1817 to the year 1827—the Logierian system flourished; and, among other adherents, it found one no less distinguished than Kalkbrenner, who, with Mr. Webb, joined the inventor in his London Academy. Since then, as we have said, it has been rapidly sliding out of notice; and would now be hardly mentioned in the world of Art, save for some event like that which has made us now rub up our recollections of the overture to 'Tancredi,' "performed on sixteen pianos."

More than one list is current of the singers who are engaged for the Italian operas at Covent Garden—probably none, as yet, accurate. It seems generally understood that Madame Persiani, having accepted a three years' engagement at Madrid, will not make one of the corps,—nor Signor Ronconi: but we are told of Mdlle. Löwe, *La Nini-Barbieri*, Signori Guasco, Musich, Marini, and others: and, it is added, that Signor Romani, from Florence, is to be *maestro*. Let us warn all interested, while there is time, that the repertory of modern Italy, to which we fear most of the above-mentioned artists are devoted, will neither keep, nor even, we think, gain, a public in England. No effort has succeeded in giving the music of Verdi a hold on our public. That composer seems already exhausted. The present fashion of Italian writing, having reached the extreme, must, we think, change ere long: and the consummation will be insured, should Rossini consent to use his genius for another ten years and other ten operas, as now seems not impossible. Mr. Lumley is said to have secured the score of the new 'Donna'—a move worth a hundred purchases of 'King Lear's' to be written. The importance of this, too, is increased by the positive assurance that, so far from being a *rifacimento*—the new opera will only include two of the choruses of the former one. It will be found hard to outdo the melody of 'Aurora,' or the dignity of 'Elena,' or the effect of the soprano and tenor duet: but if any Italian can, it is Rossini.

The Americans are announcing, as a novelty, a fashion of throwing money on the stage, in place of bouquets, which has recently broken out in their western states. Now, as George Selwyn says, "there is nothing new under the grandson." They will find in M. Noverre's solemn and picturesque treatise on the art of dancing (a work, to speak seriously, of great ingenuity and research) mention of the purses of gold which were thrown on the London stage at the benefit of Mdlle. Sallé, the Elssler of her day, by our grandfathers.

We have tidings, from Vienna, of the anniversary of Gluck's birthday, kept there on the 4th of this month—when the 'Requiem,' of Mozart was executed, and the monument not long since erected to the composer uncovered. We have, also, news of a musical event in the Austrian metropolis, which "came off" some six weeks earlier. This is the entire success of a new opera, 'The Armourer,' with music by Herr Lortzing; whom a correspondent, it will be recollected, some years ago [*Athen. No. 681*], styled "the Balfe of Germany." Without reference to the ascertained qualities of a composer now ten years before the public, we cannot but think that had the work been the *Phœnix* described, more than tidings thereof—some of the music—would have been seen and heard in London ere this.—A few weeks ago, we were talking, incidentally, of Herr Queisser, the great German trombone-player [*ante*, p. 433]. He has since died at Leipzig.

The next works to be given at the *Opéra Comique* of Paris are announced to be—'Le Père,' a three-act opera, the music by M. Clapisson,—and a pair of one-act works by M. Bourges and M. Potier. M. Thomas, too, is said to be writing an opera in three acts,—M. Adrien Boieldieu, another,—for the same theatre.

MISCELLANEA

Paris Academy of Sciences.—July 13.—A paper was read by M. Séguier on the construction of railroads. M. Séguier is an advocate for railroad travelling; and is of opinion that a very much greater rate of speed than that which is now attained could be adopted with perfect safety, if proper care and skill were taken in the construction of the roads and of the material, and due skill and attention manifested by the persons employed. He thinks, however, that any rate of speed, however small, is dangerous, when all the conditions of safety are overlooked. He indignantly notices the indifference to human life in the construction of railroads on the border of precipices without parapets—in the mode of making tunnels and viaducts—in that of laying down the rails, &c. He suggests many improvements—and particularly one to which he attaches great importance. He recommends a middle rail with a centre wheel for the locomotive; by which means the weight would have an equal bearing, instead of throwing it all on the sides, and thus rendering a *déraillement* almost inevitable in the event of any sudden shock. MM. Bouchardat and Sandras completed their series of communications on the digestion of food, by an article on the effect of alcoholic liquids. They state that these liquids do not undergo in the apparatus of digestion any other change than that of being weakened by the gastric juice and mucus, the saliva, and the other liquids which may be present. The absorption of alcoholic liquids is effected by the orifices of the veins. It is particularly in the stomach that this takes place, when these liquids are taken in excess or mixed with sugar. The absorption, however, may be continued throughout the intestines. The chyloferous vessels perform no part in this absorption. Spirituous liquors, when introduced into the circulation, are not eliminated by any of the secretory organs; a small portion only is evaporated by the lungs. If the quantity taken be very great, the arterial blood preserves the colour of venous blood, and alcohol may induce apoplexy. Alcohol, under the influence of oxygen, incessantly introduced into the system by the respiration, may be immediately converted into water and carbonic acid, but in many cases acetic acid has been obtained. —A paper was received from M. Lassaigne on the air of crowded rooms. The author proves that the carbonic acid is found in the entire mass of air in the room—and that the partial admission of fresh air will not suffice for the purposes of health.

The Count de Sainte-Marie's 'Algeria.'—We have received a letter from the Count de Sainte-Marie, on the subject of the notice in our last number of his volume on Algeria: wherein, in answer to our question, "Who is this Count St.-Marie?" he informs us that he is descended from that querry to George the Second of England, who saved the monarch's life at the battle of Dettingen,—as related by M. Pertz, in his 'History of the Guelphs'; and, in reply to our expressed distrust of some of his statements, explains that he was on service in that country for eight years, and in a position to know personally all the facts to which he testifies. We willingly give the Count the benefit of his explanation; but cannot, therefore, withdraw the expression of our doubts as to the trustworthiness of his authority. They were not, as we stated, directed against the author's facts, but against the judgment which he brought to bear upon them. We instanced, amongst other things, the difficulty of believing that Marshal Bugeaud and his officers could, all, be at once such notoriously corrupt functionaries and ferocious soldiers as he would make them appear—on the testimony of a work in which the tone of exaggeration and spirit of partizanship are so conspicuous; giving the Count, at the same time, credit for his contribution to our knowledge of the internal management and condition of the country of which he treats. The point in our remarks to which he objects we might have put much more strongly than

we did—without, at the same time, meaning to convey the slightest imputation against the Count de Sainte-Marie's veracity. His book gives the impression of prejudices, which, in the absence of our knowledge as to his personality, raised a doubt if he could be a Frenchman who said such hard things of his countrymen,—and of a credulity and love of effect, which, coupled with the prejudices, suggested the necessity of caution in the reception of his testimony.

Commercial Value of Insects.—The importance of insects, commercially speaking, is scarcely ever thought of. Great Britain does not pay less than 1,000,000 of dollars annually for the dried carcasses of the tiny insect, the cochineal; and another Indian insect, gum shellac, is scarcely less valuable. More than 1,500,000 of human beings derive their sole support from the culture and manufacture of silk; and the silkworm alone creates an annual circulating medium of nearly 200,000,000 of dollars. 500,000 dollars are annually spent in England alone for foreign honey,—at least 10,000 cwt. of wax is imported into that country every year. Then, there are the gall-nuts of commerce, used for dyeing and making ink, &c.; while the cantharides, or Spanish fly, is an absolute indispensable in materia medica.—*Boston Transcript.*

Baths and Wash-houses.—The Bill, as amended by the committee, for promoting the voluntary establishment in boroughs and parishes in England and Wales of public baths and wash-houses has been printed. It contains 41 provisions, with the same schedules as appeared in the original Bill. The preamble states it to be desirable for the health, comfort, and welfare of the inhabitants of towns and populous districts to encourage the establishment therein of public baths and wash-houses, and public open bathing places. It is proposed that the measure may be adopted in boroughs under the Municipal Corporation Acts, and "also, with the approval of one of Her Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, for any parish in England not within such incorporated borough." A very useful interpretation clause is given at the beginning of the Bill, and not at the end, where it generally appears. The council of a borough may adopt the act, the expenses to be borne by the borough fund, and the income realized to be paid to the credit of the same fund. On the requisition of ten rate-payers of a parish, a meeting may be called to determine whether the act shall be put in force therein; and if it be resolved by a majority of two-thirds of the members of the vestry present at such meeting that the act ought to be adopted, the same is to be notified to the Secretary of State; and when his approval is obtained, then it is to take effect in the parish. Commissioners are to be appointed in vestry to carry the act into force, and to meet at least once a month; officers to be appointed, and books kept by the commissioners to be open for inspection. The expense of carrying the act into execution in a parish is to be borne by the poor-rate; and after the repayment of a sum raised for the measure, the surplus is to be paid in aid of the poor-rate. By the 19th provision, it is proposed that the vestries of neighbouring parishes may concur and bear their proportionate share in the erection of baths and wash-houses and open bathing-places. For the more easy execution of the purposes of the act, the commissioners are to be considered a corporate body; councils and commissioners may borrow money, and the Public Works Loan-office may lend such money. Lands may be purchased and baths erected, and existing baths may be purchased for the purposes of the act. Water and gas companies may supply water or gas for baths and bathing-places, "either without charge or on such other favourable terms as they shall think fit." Councillors and commissioners are not to be personally liable. By-laws are to be made and sanctioned by the Secretary of State, and copies or abstracts to be exhibited. The proportion of baths to be in favour of the labouring classes; and clothes may be detained for payment of the charges—and be sold if not fetched away in seven days. There are penalties for misconduct of officers; and the share not paid to informers is to be paid to the borough or parish where the baths are situate. By schedule A, by-laws are to be framed for the proper management of the places; and by schedule B, the charges are fixed. Baths for the labouring

classes, with clean water, to be, with a clean towel, 1d. for a cold bath; and 2d. for a warm, with towel. The charge for several children bathing,—2d. for several children, not exceeding four, for a cold bath, and 4d. for a warm bath. The prices are fixed for the use of wash-houses; and in open bathing-places, where several persons bathe in the same water, the charge is to be 3d. for each person.—*Times.*

Spontaneous Combustion.—This summer, the banks of the Cam exhibit an unusual multitude of those singular phenomena—cases of spontaneous ignition and combustion in growing willows. About a week ago, we observed, in one instance, at a point of the river not far from Granchester, the process rapidly going on. It was really astonishing to look upon a fine willow, in the full vigour of robust vegetable health, pouring forth clouds of smoke from its half-burned stem, and doomed speedily to expire—its own funeral pile. How explain this? How account for the fact that this tree, yet hale and green, covered with a rich mass of foliage and flourishing "like a green bay tree on the river-bank"—should suddenly burst forth into ignition, burn like tinder to its very core, and to-morrow be prostrate? There is no putrescence—we think there can be no fermentation in this process. If instances of spontaneous vegetable combustion thus frequently happen, why dispute the analogous case of spontaneous animal combustion? The tree which we observed last week, as stated above, is now prostrate—its very foliage charred—a vegetable ruin—as if stripped, shattered, blasted, and half-consumed by the electric fluid.—*Cambridge Advertiser.*

The Copper Region.—The stories which reach us from the copper region on Lake Superior, almost daily, startle our credulity; and were it not that we have ourselves seen some of these large masses of native copper, we should find it difficult to credit them, however well authenticated. A gentleman from Zanesville, now on his way to Lake Superior, thus writes from Detroit, on the 28th of May, to the *Zanesville Courier*:—"The explorations on Lake Superior prove that it is, beyond compare, the richest copper region in the world; and four or five veins have, thus far, been discovered which contain silver in sufficient quantities to render the mining highly profitable. Some of the copper ores carry with them 10 per cent. of silver; which would make its commercial value between 4,000 and 5,000 dollars per ton. The explorations during the past winter, I learn, have been highly satisfactory. One day last week, a boat took down about 50,000 dollars' worth of copper and silver ore belonging to the Pittsburgh Company, destined for the Boston market. The Boston and Lake Superior Company (Eagle river) have struck a vein which is represented to be very rich in silver. The Copper Falls Company, you will recollect, uncovered a mass of native copper, last winter, some 13 feet in length,—which proved a very serious obstacle to the prosecution of their work. The Eagle Harbour Company, on the adjoining location, have met with an obstacle still more serious. They have come to a mass of native copper, which serves as a brazen barrier to all further operations,—at least for the present. They have 'drifted' longitudinally about 90 feet, without finding its length; they have sunk down about four feet in places without finding its depth. Its average thickness is about 18 inches! The mass thus far uncovered is estimated at about 90 tons; and its commercial value, when raised and smelted, will exceed 25,000 dollars. This seems almost incredible, and yet it is literally true. Nothing in the previous history of mining operations can compare with this. The Ontonagon copper rock, weighing about two tons, was regarded as one of the wonders of the world; and yet, between that mass and this, the difference is as great as between a mustard-seed shot and a cannon-ball. The company propose erecting a steam-engine for the purpose of sawing this immense mass into blocks, and thus raising it from the mine. I saw some of the fragments, or rough 'strings,' that were cut off from the exterior; and, with the exception of an occasional admixture of spar, it resembled more the product of the furnace than the mine."—*Toronto Patriot.*

To CORRESPONDENTS.—E. V.—W. B.—W. C.—I. H.—received.

Erratum.—P. 734, col. 3, l. 64, for 'works of' read *works*; and for 'Argenais de Barcelai,' read *Argencia, by Barclay.*

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